

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 84—COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

PREFILED JANUARY 30, 2023

Referred to Committee on Natural Resources

SUMMARY—Revises requirements for the issuance of certain annual permits for entering, camping and boating in state parks and recreational areas. (BDR 35-471)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State: Yes.

~

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to state lands; requiring the Division of State Parks of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to issue, free of charge, an annual permit for entering, camping and boating in all state parks and recreational areas to members of certain Indian tribes under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

1 Existing law requires the Division of State Parks of the State Department of  
2 Conservation and Natural Resources to issue free of charge, other than an  
3 administrative fee, an annual permit to enter, camp and boat in all state parks and  
4 recreational areas in this State to any bona fide resident of this State who: (1) is 65  
5 years of age or older; or (2) has incurred a permanent service-connected disability  
6 and has been honorably discharged from the Armed Forces of the United States.  
7 (NRS 407.065) This bill requires the Division to issue free of charge an annual  
8 permit to enter, camp and boat in all state parks and recreational areas in this State  
9 to any member of an Indian tribe located in whole or in part in this State. This bill  
10 also provides that the Division is required to issue such an annual permit to a  
11 member of an Indian tribe without collecting an administrative fee.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 407.065 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
2 407.065 1. The Administrator, subject to the approval of the  
3 Director:



1 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph and NRS  
2 407.066, may establish, name, plan, operate, control, protect,  
3 develop and maintain state parks, monuments and recreational areas  
4 for the use of the general public. The name of an existing state park,  
5 monument or recreational area may not be changed unless the  
6 Legislature approves the change by statute.

7 (b) Shall protect state parks and property controlled or  
8 administered by the Division from misuse or damage and preserve  
9 the peace within those areas. The Administrator may appoint or  
10 designate certain employees of the Division to have the general  
11 authority of peace officers.

12 (c) May allow multiple use of state parks and real property  
13 controlled or administered by the Division for any lawful purpose,  
14 including, but not limited to, grazing, mining, development of  
15 natural resources, hunting and fishing, in accordance with such  
16 regulations as may be adopted in furtherance of the purposes of the  
17 Division.

18 (d) Except as otherwise provided in this section, shall impose  
19 and collect reasonable fees for entering, camping and boating in  
20 state parks and recreational areas. The Division shall issue an annual  
21 permit for entering, camping and boating in all state parks and  
22 recreational areas in this State ~~[-]~~ **without charge:**

23 (1) ***Except that the Division shall charge and collect an***  
24 ***administrative fee for the issuance of the permit in an amount***  
25 ***sufficient to cover the costs of issuing the permit:***

26 (I) Upon application therefor and proof of residency and  
27 age, to any bona fide resident of the State of Nevada who is 65 years  
28 of age or older.

29 ~~[-]~~ (II) Upon application therefor and proof of residency  
30 and proof of status as described in subsection 5 of NRS 361.091, to  
31 a bona fide resident of the State of Nevada who has incurred a  
32 permanent service-connected disability and has been honorably  
33 discharged from the Armed Forces of the United States.

34 ~~[-]~~ ~~The permit must be issued without charge, except that the~~  
35 ~~Division shall charge and collect an administrative fee for the~~  
36 ~~issuance of the permit in an amount sufficient to cover the costs of~~  
37 ~~issuing the permit.]~~

38 (2) ***Upon application therefor and proof of tribal***  
39 ***membership, to a member of an Indian tribe that is located in***  
40 ***whole or in part in this State.***

41 (e) May conduct and operate such special services as may be  
42 necessary for the comfort and convenience of the general public,  
43 and impose and collect reasonable fees for such special services.

44 (f) May rent or lease concessions located within the boundaries  
45 of state parks or of real property controlled or administered by the



1 Division to public or private corporations, to groups of natural  
2 persons, or to natural persons for a valuable consideration upon such  
3 terms and conditions as the Division deems fit and proper, but no  
4 concessionaire may dominate any state park operation.

5 (g) May establish such capital projects construction funds as are  
6 necessary to account for the parks improvements program approved  
7 by the Legislature. The money in these funds must be used for the  
8 construction and improvement of those parks which are under the  
9 supervision of the Administrator.

10 (h) In addition to any concession specified in paragraph (f), may  
11 establish concessions within the boundaries of any state park to  
12 provide for the sale of food, drinks, ice, publications, sundries, gifts  
13 and souvenirs, and other such related items as the Administrator  
14 determines are appropriately made available to visitors. Any money  
15 received by the Administrator for a concession established pursuant  
16 to this paragraph must be deposited in the Account for State Park  
17 Interpretative and Educational Programs and Operation of  
18 Concessions created by NRS 407.0755.

19 (i) May organize the areas under the jurisdiction of the Division  
20 into regions.

21 2. The Administrator:

22 (a) Shall issue an annual permit to a person who pays a  
23 reasonable fee as prescribed by regulation which authorizes the  
24 holder of the permit to enter each state park and each recreational  
25 area in this State and, except as otherwise provided in subsection 4,  
26 use the facilities of the state park or recreational area without paying  
27 the entrance fee; and

28 (b) May issue an annual permit to a person who pays a  
29 reasonable fee as prescribed by regulation which authorizes the  
30 holder of the permit to enter a specific state park or specific  
31 recreational area in this State and, except as otherwise provided in  
32 subsection 4, use the facilities of the state park or recreational area  
33 without paying the entrance fee.

34 3. The Administrator shall establish a program for the issuance  
35 of an annual permit, free of charge, to enter each state park and  
36 recreational area in this State to any pupil who is enrolled in the fifth  
37 grade at a school in this State. The program must:

38 (a) Specify the period for which the Administrator may issue an  
39 annual permit to a pupil pursuant to this subsection, including,  
40 without limitation, the date upon which the Administrator may issue  
41 an annual permit to a pupil who has completed fourth grade and  
42 who intends to enter the fifth grade after completing the fourth  
43 grade;



1 (b) Specify the circumstances under which a pupil and any  
2 person accompanying a pupil may use the annual permit to enter a  
3 state park or recreational area; and

4 (c) Include any other requirement which the Administrator  
5 determines is necessary to establish and carry out the program  
6 pursuant to this subsection.

7 4. An annual permit issued pursuant to subsection 2 or 3 does  
8 not authorize the holder of the permit to engage in camping or  
9 boating, or to attend special events. The holder of such a permit who  
10 wishes to engage in camping or boating, or to attend special events,  
11 must pay any fee established for the respective activity.

12 5. During each Public Lands Day observed pursuant to NRS  
13 236.053, and upon proof of residency in this State, the Division  
14 shall allow a resident of this State to enter, camp and boat in any  
15 state park or recreational area without the payment of any fees for  
16 those activities. The free day of camping authorized pursuant to this  
17 subsection must include either the Friday night before Public Lands  
18 Day or overnight on the night of Public Lands Day, as determined  
19 by the Administrator for each state park and recreational area. A  
20 person is not entitled to receive more than one free night of camping  
21 during each Public Lands Day pursuant to this subsection.

22 6. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 1 of NRS  
23 407.0762 and subsection 1 of NRS 407.0765, the fees collected  
24 pursuant to paragraphs (d), (e) and (f) of subsection 1 or subsection  
25 2 must be deposited in the State General Fund.

26 **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2023.

