

HB 1768-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2026 SESSION

26-2926

06/08

HOUSE BILL ***1768-FN***

AN ACT relative to free day-use admission and metered parking at state parks for all honorably discharged state resident veterans.

SPONSORS: Rep. Bridle, Rock. 29; Rep. Bordes, Belk. 5; Rep. Coker, Belk. 2; Rep. Edgar, Rock. 29; Rep. McGrath, Rock. 40

COMMITTEE: Resources, Recreation and Development

ANALYSIS

This bill establishes that honorably discharged New Hampshire veterans are exempt from day-use and metered parking fees at state parks upon presenting acceptable proof of status.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

HB 1768-FN- FISCAL NOTE
AS INTRODUCED

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FISCAL IMPACT:

Estimated State Impact				
	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Revenue	\$0	Indeterminable Decrease (\$200,000 to \$450,000)	Indeterminable Decrease (\$200,000 to \$450,000)	Indeterminable Decrease (\$200,000 to \$450,000)
<i>Revenue Fund(s)</i>	State Park Fund			
Expenditures*	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Funding Source(s)</i>	None			
Appropriations*	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Funding Source(s)</i>	None			

*Expenditure = Cost of bill

*Appropriation = Authorized funding to cover cost of bill

METHODOLOGY:

This bill exempts honorably discharged New Hampshire resident veterans from state park day use admission fees and exempts vehicles displaying a New Hampshire veteran license plate from metered parking fees at state parks.

The Department of Natural and Cultural Resources states this bill would reduce revenues to the State Park Fund beginning in FY 2027. The Department, during the 2025 operating season, generated \$5,178,239 in state park day use fees and \$3,083,467 in parking meter fees, for total combined revenues of \$8,261,706. Based on data published by New Hampshire Employment Security, approximately 7% of New Hampshire residents are veterans. Because the Department does not track either the residency or veteran status of park visitors, it assumed that between 33% and 75% of park visitors are New Hampshire residents, and that 7% of those residents would qualify for the exemption.

Using those assumptions, the Department estimates the annual revenue loss for a full operating season would range from approximately \$190,845 to \$433,740.

Assumed Share of NH Resident Visitors	Estimated Annual Revenue Loss
33% of visitors	\$190,845
50% of visitors	\$289,160

66% of visitors	\$381,691
75% of visitors	\$433,740

The Department states this bill would not increase state expenditures and would not require additional staff.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Natural and Cultural Resources