

Senate Ways and Means Committee

Sonja Caldwell 271-2117

SB 511-FN, relative to state park fees for state residents.

Hearing Date: January 21, 2026

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Lang, Sullivan, Rosenwald and Fenton, McConkey

Members of the Committee Absent : Senator Murphy

Bill Analysis: This bill:

I. Requires the commissioner of the department of natural and cultural resources to set state park entry fees for New Hampshire residents at no more than 50 percent of the fees charged to nonresidents.

II. Allows separate fee schedules for specific uses within state parks.

III. Permits discounted or waived rates for veterans and school or student groups.

Sponsors:

Sen. Murphy
Sen. Sullivan
Sen. Prentiss

Sen. Innis
Sen. Gannon

Sen. Pearl
Sen. McGough

Who supports the bill: Sen. Pearl, Senator Daniel Innis, Simon Berrio, Sen. Keith Murphy

Who opposes the bill: Sue Holstein

Who is neutral on the bill: No one

Summary of testimony presented in support:
Grant Bosse

Mr. Bosse introduced the bill for Sen. Murphy. Mr. Bosse said this bill is an attempt to maximize the contribution of out-of-staters to our state funds, in this case, parks. He said Sen. Muphy thinks that NH residents should be given a lower entrance fee to state parks than out-of-state visitors. He also thinks the park system should provide deeper discounts for veterans and school groups. He distributed a written statement

from Sen. Murphy as well as a chart comparing in-state and out-of-state fees for NH's neighboring states.

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Date Hearing Report completed: January 21, 2026