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Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

SB 20-069

FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 20-0159
Prime Sponsors: Sen. Garcia

Date: January 20, 2020
Bill Status: Senate SVMA
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Bill Topic: DISABLED VETERANS FREE STATE PARK ACCESS

- Summary of Fiscal Impact: State Revenue, State Expenditure, State Transfer, TABOR Refund, Local Government, Statutory Public Entity

The bill allows disabled veterans residing in Colorado to receive free transferrable annual state park passes. The bill increases state expenditures and decreases state revenue by a minimal amount on an ongoing basis.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary of Legislation

The bill allows a disabled veteran who is a Colorado resident to receive a transferrable annual state park pass free of charge.

Background

Under current law, disabled veterans are allowed free entry to state parks if they have obtained a disabled veteran license plate from the Division of Motor Vehicles and are present in the vehicle when entering the park.

There are currently about 100,000 disabled veterans residing in Colorado. As of December 31, 2019, 53,316 vehicles were registered in Colorado with disabled veteran license plates.

State Revenue

The Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife (CPW) in the Department of Natural Resources will experience a minimal reduction in revenue as a result of the bill. To the extent that disabled veterans currently pay for entry to state parks, but would not do so if in possession of a transferrable annual park pass, CPW will lose revenue. Because the state park system is designated as an enterprise, revenue is not subject to state revenue limits under TABOR.

State Expenditures

Producing and distributing annual passes will create costs and workload for CPW, which can be accomplished without the need for a change in appropriations.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 5, 2020, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 6, 2020, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Natural Resources