

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S. 572**

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TO: The Honorable George E. "Chip" Campsen, Chairperson, Senate Fish, Game, and Forestry Committee
FROM: State Budget Division, Budget and Control Board
ANALYSTS: R.J. Stein
DATE: April 12, 2013 SBD: 2013259

AUTHOR: Senator Shealy PRIMARY CODE CITE: 51-3-60
SUBJECT: Free State Park Admission to any disabled veteran

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:
A Cost to the General Fund (See Below)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:
A Cost of Federal and/or Other Funds (See Below)

BILL SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 572 amends Section 51-3-60 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, relating to free admission of disabled veterans to State Parks. The Bill corrects the term "Veterans Administration" to the "Department of Veterans Affairs" and it allows any disabled veteran (regardless of the degree of disability) to enter any state park free of charge.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism

Currently only totally and permanently disabled veterans enjoy the benefit of free park admission. The Department reports that the new provision of this Bill is estimated to reduce park admission revenues by \$239,700 annually. If all the state parks are to continue operating at current levels, the Department would need an additional State appropriation of this amount or the General Assembly could raise park user fees.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

None.

SPECIAL NOTES:

The Board of Economic Advisors is the appropriate entity to address any revenue impact associated with this or any other Bill.

Approved by:



Brenda Hart
Assistant Director, State Budget Division