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ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 59—COMMITTEE ON NATURAL  
RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND MINING

(ON BEHALF OF THE DIVISION OF STATE PARKS  
OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES)

PREFILED NOVEMBER 19, 2018

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Referred to Committee on Natural Resources,  
Agriculture, and Mining

**SUMMARY**—Revises requirements for the issuance of certain permits for entering, camping and boating in state parks and recreational areas. (BDR 35-211)

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

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

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**AN ACT** relating to state lands; revising the requirements for the issuance of certain permits for entering, camping and boating in state parks and recreational areas; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel’s Digest:**

1 Under existing law, the Division of State Parks of the State Department of  
2 Conservation and Natural Resources is required to issue an annual permit for the  
3 free use of all state parks and recreational areas in this State to any person who is  
4 65 years of age or older and has resided in this State for at least 5 years  
5 immediately preceding the date on which the application is submitted. (NRS  
6 407.065) This bill eliminates the requirement for 5 years’ residency and instead  
7 requires the Division to issue such a permit to any bona fide resident of the State of  
8 Nevada who is 65 years of age or older.

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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:

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

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

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

21       (d) Except as otherwise provided in this section, shall impose  
22 and collect reasonable fees for entering, camping and boating in  
23 state parks and recreational areas. The Division shall issue an annual  
24 permit for entering, camping and boating in all state parks and  
25 recreational areas in this State:

26       (1) Upon application therefor and proof of residency and age,  
27 to any ~~{person}~~ *bona fide resident of the State of Nevada* who is 65  
28 years of age or older . ~~{and has resided in this State for at least 5~~  
29 ~~years immediately preceding the date on which the application is~~  
30 ~~submitted.}~~

31       (2) Upon application therefor and proof of residency and  
32 proof of status as described in subsection 5 of NRS 361.091, to a  
33 bona fide resident of the State of Nevada who has incurred a  
34 permanent service-connected disability of 10 percent or more and  
35 has been honorably discharged from the Armed Forces of the United  
36 States.

37       ↪ The permit must be issued without charge, except that the  
38 Division shall charge and collect an administrative fee for the  
39 issuance of the permit in an amount sufficient to cover the costs of  
40 issuing the permit.



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

4 (f) May rent or lease concessions located within the boundaries  
5 of state parks or of real property controlled or administered by the  
6 Division to public or private corporations, to groups of natural  
7 persons, or to natural persons for a valuable consideration upon such  
8 terms and conditions as the Division deems fit and proper, but no  
9 concessionaire may dominate any state park operation.

10 (g) May establish such capital projects construction funds as are  
11 necessary to account for the parks improvements program approved  
12 by the Legislature. The money in these funds must be used for the  
13 construction and improvement of those parks which are under the  
14 supervision of the Administrator.

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

24 2. The Administrator:

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

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

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

41 (a) Specify the period for which the Administrator may issue an  
42 annual permit to a pupil pursuant to this subsection, including,  
43 without limitation, the date upon which the Administrator may issue  
44 an annual permit to a pupil who has completed fourth grade and



1 who intends to enter the fifth grade after completing the fourth  
2 grade;

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

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

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

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

24 6. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 1 of NRS  
25 407.0762 and subsection 1 of NRS 407.0765, the fees collected  
26 pursuant to paragraphs (d), (e) and (f) of subsection 1 or subsection  
27 2 must be deposited in the State General Fund.

28 **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective:

29 1. Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting  
30 regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative  
31 tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

32 2. On July 1, 2019, for all other purposes.

