

HOUSE BILL No. 1044

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 14-8-2-296.5; IC 14-19-3.

Synopsis: State park admission to military members and veterans. Requires the department of natural resources (department) to provide free admission to: (1) members of the armed forces of the United States or Indiana National Guard; and (2) certain veterans of the armed forces of the United States or Indiana National Guard; as well as the individual's motor vehicle, including passengers within the individual's motor vehicle to Indiana state parks, recreation areas, reservoirs, forests, historic sites, museums, memorials, and other department properties. Eliminates provisions that provide that an individual who: (1) is eligible for a disabled Hoosier veteran license plate; or (2) is issued a prisoner of war license plate; may purchase a Golden Hoosier Passport.

Effective: July 1, 2023.

Bartels, Judy, Lucas, O'Brien

January 9, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Natural Resources.



First Regular Session of the 123rd General Assembly (2023)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2022 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1044

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning natural and cultural resources.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 14-8-2-296.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
2 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
3 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023]: **Sec. 296.5. "Veteran", for purposes of**
4 **IC 14-19-3-1.5, means an individual who:**

- 5 (1) **has served in:**
6 (A) **the armed forces of the United States or their reserves;**
7 (B) **the Indiana Army National Guard; or**
8 (C) **the Indiana Air National Guard; and**
9 (2) **was released from active duty under conditions other than**
10 **dishonorable.**

11 SECTION 2. IC 14-19-3-1.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
12 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
13 1, 2023]: **Sec. 1.5. (a) The department may not charge an admission**
14 **fee for the use of Indiana state parks, recreation areas, reservoirs,**
15 **forests, historic sites, museums, memorials, and other department**
16 **properties to:**

- 17 (1) **an individual who is:**



- 1 **(A) a member of the armed forces of the United States or**
 2 **their reserves;**
 3 **(B) a member of the Indiana Army National Guard or**
 4 **Indiana Air National Guard; or**
 5 **(C) a veteran who is an Indiana resident; and**
 6 **(2) the individual's:**
 7 **(A) motor vehicle; and**
 8 **(B) passengers.**

9 **The individual must present an item described in subsection (b) for**
 10 **the department to verify that the individual meets the**
 11 **requirements of this subsection.**

12 **(b) The following items may be used to verify that an individual**
 13 **qualifies for admission under subsection (a):**

- 14 **(1) A United States Uniformed Services Retiree Identification**
 15 **Card.**
 16 **(2) A DD 214 or DD 215 record.**
 17 **(3) United States military discharge papers.**
 18 **(4) A current armed forces identification card.**
 19 **(5) A credential issued to the individual that contains an**
 20 **indication of veteran status under IC 9-24-11-5.5 or**
 21 **IC 9-24-16-3.**
 22 **(6) Any other identification approved by the department, in**
 23 **consultation with the Indiana department of veterans' affairs**
 24 **established by IC 10-17-1-2.**

25 SECTION 3. IC 14-19-3-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.257-2017,
 26 SECTION 43, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 27 JULY 1, 2023]: Sec. 4. (a) Upon application to the department, a
 28 resident of Indiana:

- 29 (1) who:
 30 (A) if born in 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, or 1937, is at least sixty
 31 (60) years of age; or
 32 (B) if born before 1933 or after 1937, is at least sixty-five (65)
 33 years of age; **or**
 34 (2) who is eligible for Social Security disability payments under
 35 42 U.S.C. 423;
 36 ~~(3) who is eligible for a disabled Hoosier veteran license plate~~
 37 ~~under IC 9-18.5-5-1; or~~
 38 ~~(4) who is issued a prisoner of war license plate under~~
 39 ~~IC 9-18.5-4-1;~~
 40 may purchase or is eligible to receive an annual Golden Hoosier
 41 Passport.
 42 (b) A Golden Hoosier Passport entitles:



- 1 (1) the resident;
2 (2) the resident's motor vehicle; and
3 (3) the resident's passengers;
4 to unlimited admission for one (1) calendar year to the Indiana state
5 parks, recreation areas, reservoirs, forests, historic sites, museums,
6 memorials, and other department properties for which admission is
7 charged during the year for which the passport was issued.
8 (c) ~~Except as provided in subsection (d)~~, The fee for an annual
9 Golden Hoosier Passport issued under this section is fifty percent
10 (50%) of the fee that the department charges a resident who is not
11 described in subsection (a)(1) ~~or~~ (a)(2) ~~or~~ ~~(a)(3)~~ for unlimited
12 admission for one (1) calendar year to the Indiana state parks,
13 recreation areas, reservoirs, forests, historic sites, museums, memorials,
14 and other department properties for which admission is charged.
15 ~~(d) A fee may not be charged for an annual Golden Hoosier Passport~~
16 ~~issued under this section to a resident described in subsection (a)(4).~~

