

HOUSE BILL No. 1367

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 14-8-2; IC 14-19-3-6.

Synopsis: Natural resource entrance fees. Allows counties that meet certain criteria to adopt an ordinance to impose a surcharge of not more than \$2 in addition to the fees charged by the department of natural resources (department) for entry into certain state parks and recreation areas. Provides that the surcharge may not be imposed on: (1) a county resident; or (2) an annual state park pass holder. Requires the department to collect, report, and pay the surcharge to each county treasurer. Provides that the revenue collected is to be used for: (1) public safety purposes; or (2) improvement of reservoir water quality.

Effective: July 1, 2023.

Hall, May, Haggard

January 17, 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. 1367

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 14-8-2-87.8 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
3 1, 2023]: **Sec. 87.8. "Fees", for purposes of IC 14-19-3-6, means**
4 **entrance or admission fees that are paid in a county upon or after**
5 **entering an Indiana state park or state recreation area located in**
6 **the county.**

7 SECTION 2. IC 14-8-2-225.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
8 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
9 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2023]: **Sec. 225.5. "Public safety", for**
10 **purposes of IC 14-19-3-6, has the meaning set forth in**
11 **IC 6-3.6-2-14.**

12 SECTION 3. IC 14-19-3-6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
13 AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
14 1, 2023]: **Sec. 6. (a) The general assembly finds the following:**

15 **(1) Counties in which a significant amount of land is owned by**
16 **the state or federal government, or in which a reservoir is**
17 **located, experience a unique loss of tax revenue for use in**



1 providing government services such as public safety and
2 maintaining the drinking water supply.

3 (2) A unique approach is required to ensure that such counties
4 receive additional revenue to pay for public safety and to
5 address reservoir water quality issues for those who use the
6 reservoir as both a source of drinking water and recreation.

7 (3) The additional revenue collected through a local ordinance
8 by such a county benefits the health and welfare of the people
9 and is of public utility and benefit.

10 (b) This section applies to a county:

11 (1) in which at least thirty-five percent (35%) of the county's
12 land in the aggregate is owned or leased by the:

13 (A) state of Indiana; or

14 (B) federal government; or

15 (2) that contains a reservoir that is more than ten thousand
16 (10,000) acres in size.

17 (c) A county fiscal body may adopt an ordinance to impose a
18 surcharge on the fees paid in the county for entry into a state park
19 or state recreation area located in the county. A county fiscal body
20 that adopts an ordinance under this section shall notify the director
21 of the department. The department shall report the surcharge
22 collected under the ordinance on forms approved by the county
23 treasurer.

24 (d) The surcharge is equal to an amount of not more than two
25 dollars (\$2) in addition to the fees charged by the department for
26 entry into the state park or state recreation area. However, the
27 surcharge may not be imposed on:

28 (1) a resident of a county that adopts an ordinance under
29 subsection (c); or

30 (2) a person who holds an annual pass issued under section 5
31 of this chapter.

32 (e) The department shall:

33 (1) begin collecting the surcharge not later than sixty (60)
34 days after receiving notice under subsection (c) of the
35 adoption of an ordinance; and

36 (2) pay the surcharge collected during a month to the county
37 treasurer not later than the end of the following month.

38 (f) The surcharge collected by the department and paid to the
39 county treasurer must, as applicable, be used for:

40 (1) public safety purposes; or

41 (2) improvement of reservoir water quality;

42 in accordance with the ordinance adopted under subsection (c).

