SENATE BILL REPORT SB 5390

As of January 28, 2025

Title: An act relating to updating the cost of the discover pass and day-use permits.

Brief Description: Updating the cost of the discover pass and day-use permits.

Sponsors: Senators Stanford and Nobles.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Local Government: 1/30/25.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Increases the cost of a Discover Pass from \$30 to \$45, and a day-use permit from \$10 to \$15 per day.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Staff: Rohan Bhattacharjee (786-7534)

Background: In 2011, the Legislature created the Discover Pass for parks and other recreation lands and facilities operated by Washington State Parks, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Department of Natural Resources. The cost of an annual Discover Pass (Pass) is \$30, and the day-use permit (Permit) is \$10.

The Pass offers access to millions of acres of state recreation lands in Washington, including more than 100 developed state parks, more than 350 primitive recreation sites, including campgrounds and picnic areas, nearly 700 water-access points, nearly 2000 miles of designated water and land recreation trails, more than 80 natural areas, and more than 30 wildlife areas.

A Pass is required for any motor vehicle to park or operate at any recreation site or lands. It is valid for one year for two motor vehicles. A Permit is valid for only one calendar day.

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One complimentary Pass must be provided to a volunteer who performed 24 hours of service on agency- sanctioned volunteer projects in a year. The agency must provide vouchers to volunteers identifying the number of volunteer hours they have provided for each project. Married spouses may present an agency with combined vouchers demonstrating the collective performance of 24 hours of service on agency-sanctioned volunteer projects in a year to be redeemed for a single complimentary Pass.

Every four years, the Office of Financial Management is required to review the cost of the Pass and the Permit, and if necessary, recommend to the Legislature an adjustment to the cost to account for inflation.

Summary of Bill: The cost of an annual Pass is increased from \$30 to \$45. The cost of a Permit is increased from \$10 to \$15 per day.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

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