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HOUSE BILL 1914

State of Washington 69th Legislature 2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Doglio, Fitzgibbon, Ormsby, Parshley, and Macri Read first time 02/10/25. Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

- AN ACT Relating to updating the cost of the discover pass and day-use permits; amending RCW 79A.80.020 and 79A.80.030; and creating
- 3 a new section.

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- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
 - Sec. 1. The legislature finds that both visitors NEW SECTION. and residents of Washington state enjoy the opportunity to recreate and experience the beauty of state-owned public lands, like state parks. The legislature also finds that the costs to provide access to these lands has been successfully supported by user-based recreation fees and that the costs of continued support and access has outpaced the revenue generated by fees. The discover pass and day-use permits that are used to gain access to state-owned lands have been in place since 2011, and the cost for the discover pass and permits has not changed since then. However, the costs to maintain recreational access have steadily increased. The original legislation anticipated the potential need to consider adjustment in the cost of both the discover pass and day-use permits. The legislature intends to maintain recreational access for all by updating the cost of the discover pass and day-use permits commensurate with the inflationary costs to carry out state recreational programs.

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- **Sec. 2.** RCW 79A.80.020 and 2017 c 121 s 1 are each amended to read as follows:
 - (1) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, a discover pass is required for any motor vehicle to:
 - (a) Park at any recreation site or lands; or

- (b) Operate on any recreation site or lands.
- (2) Except as provided in RCW 79A.80.110, the cost of a discover pass is ((thirty dollars)) \$45. Every four years the office of financial management must review the cost of the discover pass and, if necessary, recommend to the legislature an adjustment to the cost of the discover pass to account for inflation.
 - (3) A discover pass is valid for one year beginning from the date that the discover pass is marked for activation. The activation date may differ from the purchase date pursuant to any policies developed by the agencies.
- 16 (4) Sales of discover passes must be consistent with RCW 17 79A.80.100.
 - (5) The discover pass must contain space for two motor vehicle license plate numbers. A discover pass is valid only for those vehicle license plate numbers written on the pass. However, the agencies may offer for sale a family discover pass that is fully transferable among vehicles and does not require the placement of a license plate number on the pass to be valid. The agencies must collectively set a price for the sale of a family discover pass that is no more than ((fifty dollars)) §50. A discover pass is valid only for use with one motor vehicle at any one time.
 - (6)(a) One complimentary discover pass must be provided to a volunteer who performed ((twenty-four)) 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. The vouchers may be brought to an agency to be redeemed for a discover pass.
 - (b) Married spouses under chapter 26.04 RCW may present an agency with combined vouchers demonstrating the collective performance of ((twenty-four)) 24 hours of service on agency-sanctioned volunteer projects in a year to be redeemed for a single complimentary discover pass.
- **Sec. 3.** RCW 79A.80.030 and 2013 2nd sp.s. c 15 s 2 are each 39 amended to read as follows:

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(1) A person may purchase a day-use permit to meet the requirements of RCW 79A.80.080. Except as provided in RCW 79A.80.110, a day-use permit is ((ten dollars)) \$15 per day and must be available for purchase from each agency. A day-use permit is valid for one calendar day.

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- 6 (2) The agencies may provide short-term parking under RCW 79A.80.070 where a day-use permit is not required.
- 8 (3) Every four years the office of financial management must 9 review the cost of the day-use permit and, if necessary, recommend to 10 the legislature an adjustment to the cost of the day-use permit to 11 account for inflation.
- 12 (4) Sales of day-use permits must be consistent with RCW 13 79A.80.100.

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