

## Department of Planning and Budget 2001 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number** HB2451

**House of Origin**    ☒ Introduced    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Engrossed  
**Second House**    ☐ In Committee    ☐ Substitute    ☐ Enrolled

**2. Patron**        Clement

**3. Committee**    Conservation and Natural Resources

**4. Title**            Establishment of state parks' Golden Passport Two card

**5. Summary/Purpose:** This bill establishes a state parks' Golden Passport Two card which would entitle residents of Virginia who are over the age of 65, for an annual cost of \$10, to receive a 50 percent reduction in any fees charged for entering into or parking within state parks, the use of park camping facilities, rental equipment, shelters and amphitheaters, or the purchase of park merchandise. The discount is not available for the rental of state park cabins.

**6. Fiscal Impact Estimates are:** Preliminary

**6a. Expenditure Impact:**

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2000-01	\$0	0.00	N/A
2001-02	\$10,000	0.00	NGF
2002-03	\$0	0.00	N/A

**6b. Revenue Impact:**

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2000-01	\$0	0.00	N/A
2001-02	(\$350,000)	0.00	NGF
2002-03	(\$350,000)	0.00	NGF

**7. Budget amendment necessary:** Yes. Item 410.

**8. Fiscal implications:** The estimated costs for a new Passport card would be \$10,000 for printing, advertising, and distribution. The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) estimates that the discount proposed by this bill would result in a loss of \$350,000 of state park revenues. Fees collected at state parks are deposited to the Conservation Resources Fund and the State Park Concession Fund and are used to maintain and operate state park facilities and programs.

The proposed 50 percent discount exceeds the average mark-up on merchandise. Providing this discount would require selling merchandise below cost. Additionally, some concession operations are owned and operated by private concessionaires. Private concessionaires would mostly likely expect to be compensated for any discount provided.

**9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected:** Department of Conservation and Recreation

**10. Technical amendment necessary:** None

**11. Other comments:** DCR currently issues at no charge a Golden Passport card to persons receiving social security disability which entitles them to free admittance and parking at state parks. According to the Virginia Tourism Corporation, seniors represent 17 percent of the travel/tourism market and 27 percent of all parties include at least one senior. State parks currently offer discount admission fee to seniors. For \$15 a senior can receive one year of unlimited admission to one state park. For an annual fee of \$65 a senior can receive unlimited access to all state parks.

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cc: Secretary of Natural Resources

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