



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 489

January Session, 2013

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1011

Senate, April 15, 2013

The Committee on Environment reported through SEN. MEYER of the 12th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN USER FEES AT STATE PARKS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 23-26 of the general statutes is amended by adding
2 subsection (e) as follows (*Effective from passage*):

3 (NEW) (e) Not later than July 1, 2013, the Commissioner of Energy
4 and Environmental Protection shall establish special event user fees for
5 special events of limited duration at state parks, including, but not
6 limited to, weddings and receptions, for nonresidents and residents of
7 this state in amounts not greater than one hundred thirty-five per cent
8 of the amounts charged for such user fees by said commissioner as of
9 June 1, 2013.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	23-26
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ENV *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 14 \$	FY 15 \$
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	Up to 542,700	Up to 542,700

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to increase state park special event user fees for limited duration events by not greater than 135% more than what was charged as of June 1, 2013.

State park special event user fees generate, on average, \$402,000 per fiscal year. This bill could generate additional revenue of up to \$542,700 per fiscal year.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of special events held.

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 1011*****AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN USER FEES AT STATE PARKS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the energy and environmental protection commissioner, by July 1, 2013, to increase state park special event user fees for special events of limited duration (e.g., weddings and receptions) by up to 135% of the amount charged as of June 1, 2013.

By law, such fees must be deposited into the "maintenance, repair, and improvement account" within the General Fund, unless the commissioner specifically agrees otherwise (CGS § 23-15b). Account funds are used to make improvements to state parks.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 27 Nay 1 (03/25/2013)