



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 35

January Session, 2021

Senate Bill No. 702

Senate, March 9, 2021

The Committee on Children reported through SEN. ANWAR of the 3rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING A PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FREE SWIMMING LESSONS TO INDIVIDUALS UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2021*) (a) The Department of Energy
2 and Environmental Protection shall, within available appropriations,
3 establish and administer an annual program to provide swimming
4 lessons to children under the age of eighteen. Such program shall (1) be
5 offered free of charge to participants, (2) operate during the summer
6 months, and (3) be administered at state parks in accordance with the
7 provisions of subsection (b) of this section. The department may
8 contract with a nonprofit entity that provides swimming lessons and
9 water safety skills instruction to provide swimming lessons under the
10 program.

11 (b) The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection shall
12 administer such program at not fewer than eight state parks. The
13 department shall adopt criteria for the selection of state parks, with
14 priority given to those state parks that (1) contain appropriate facilities,

15 and (2) are located in municipalities that lack free-of-charge swimming
16 lessons for residents.

17 (c) The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection may
18 accept gifts, grants and donations, from any source, public or private,
19 for the purposes of establishing and administering such program.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2021</i>	New section

KID *Joint Favorable*

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 22 \$	FY 23 \$
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	See Below	See Below
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	GF - Potential Cost	Less than 500,000	Less than 500,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to provide a swimming lesson program in certain state parks, allowing the agency to contract with a nonprofit for this purpose. This requirement is estimated to result in a cost to DEEP of less than \$500,000 annually.

The bill also allows the agency to accept grants and donations from external sources to administer the program, resulting in a potential revenue gain to DEEP, to the extent this occurs.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 702*****AN ACT CONCERNING A PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FREE SWIMMING LESSONS TO INDIVIDUALS UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), within available appropriations, to establish and administer an annual program to provide swimming lessons to children under age 18. The program must be (1) free to participants, (2) during the summer months, and (3) in at least eight state parks that meet criteria developed by DEEP.

Under the bill, DEEP must adopt criteria for selecting the state parks, giving priority to parks (1) with appropriate facilities and (2) located in municipalities that lack free swimming lessons for residents.

Additionally, the bill allows DEEP to (1) contract with a nonprofit entity that provides swimming lessons and water safety skills instruction to give swimming lessons under the program and (2) accept gifts, grants, and donations from public or private sources to establish and administer the program.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2021

COMMITTEE ACTION

Committee on Children

Joint Favorable

Yea 10 Nay 3 (02/25/2021)