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State of Minnesota
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. **2961**

03/14/2016 Authored by Uglem, Dettmer, Newton, Howe, Lillie and others

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Veterans Affairs Division

03/23/2016 Adoption of Report: Amended and re-referred to the Committee on Mining and Outdoor Recreation Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to natural resources; modifying conditions for state park passes issued
1.3 without a fee to military members and disabled veterans; amending Minnesota
1.4 Statutes 2014, section 85.053, subdivisions 8, 10.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 85.053, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

1.7 Subd. 8. **Military personnel; exemption.** (a) ~~A one-day permit;~~ An annual permit
1.8 under subdivision 4, shall 1 must be issued without a fee for a motor vehicle being used by
1.9 a person who is serving in active military service in to an inactive member of any branch
1.10 or, unit, or reserve component of the United States armed forces and who is stationed
1.11 outside Minnesota, during the period of active service and for 90 days immediately
1.12 thereafter, or state National Guard or the member's dependents if the person presents the
1.13 person's current military orders a qualifying military identification or an annual pass for
1.14 the United States military issued through the National Parks and Federal Lands Pass
1.15 Program to the park attendant on duty or other designee of the commissioner.

1.16 (b) For purposes of this section, "active service" ~~has the meaning given under section~~
1.17 ~~190.05, subdivision 5e, when performed outside Minnesota~~ the commissioner shall
1.18 establish what constitutes a qualifying military identification by written order published
1.19 in the State Register. The written order is exempt from the rulemaking provisions of
1.20 chapter 14 and section 14.386 does not apply.

1.21 (c) ~~A permit is not required for a motor vehicle being used by military personnel or~~
1.22 ~~their dependents who have in their possession the annual pass for United States military~~
1.23 ~~and their dependents issued by the federal government for access to federal recreation~~
1.24 ~~sites.~~ For vehicles permitted under paragraph (a), the permit or decal issued under this

2.1 subdivision is valid only when displayed on a vehicle owned and occupied by the person
2.2 to whom the permit is issued.

2.3 (d) The commissioner may issue a daily vehicle permit free of charge to an individual
2.4 who qualifies under paragraph (a) and who does not own or operate a motor vehicle.

2.5 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2014, section 85.053, subdivision 10, is amended to read:

2.6 Subd. 10. **Free entrance; disabled veterans.** (a) The commissioner shall
2.7 issue an annual park permit for no charge to any veteran ~~with a total and permanent~~
2.8 ~~service-connected disability, and a daily park permit to any resident veteran~~ with any level
2.9 of service-connected disability, as determined by the United States Department of Veterans
2.10 Affairs, who presents each year a copy of the veteran's determination letter or other official
2.11 form of validation issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or the
2.12 United States Department of Defense to a park attendant or commissioner's designee. For
2.13 the purposes of this section, "veteran" has the meaning given in section 197.447.

2.14 (b) For vehicles permitted under paragraph (a), the permit or decal issued under this
2.15 subdivision is valid only when displayed on a vehicle owned and occupied by the person
2.16 to whom the permit is issued.

2.17 (c) The commissioner may issue a daily vehicle permit free of charge to an individual
2.18 who qualifies under paragraph (a) and who does not own or operate a motor vehicle.