
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1833

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2015 Regular Session

By House Environment (originally sponsored by Representatives Klippert, Takko, Griffey, Wilson, Scott, Bergquist, and Tarleton)

READ FIRST TIME 02/20/15.

1 AN ACT Relating to timing free access days at state parks with
2 local community events; amending RCW 79A.80.050 and 79A.05.040; and
3 adding a new section to chapter 79A.80 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 79A.80
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 (1) The director of the parks and recreation commission may, in
8 consultation with the department of natural resources and the
9 department of fish and wildlife, designate specific days when certain
10 recreation sites or lands, or all recreation sites or lands, may be
11 lawfully accessed without having to display a discover pass or day-
12 use permit.

13 (2) The free access days should be designated to best showcase
14 state parks or other recreation sites or lands, provide equitable
15 access statewide for persons with limited incomes, and not
16 significantly impact state finances. In identifying appropriate free
17 access days, the commission should consider, when practicable and
18 appropriate, the following factors:

19 (a) Any similar free access days planned by the national park
20 service for national parks;

- 1 (b) The commemoration of a grand opening of a state parks
2 facility or a facility on another state recreation site or land;
3 (c) Local community celebrations;
4 (d) Other local, regional, statewide, or national events,
5 holidays, or commemorative days.

6 **Sec. 2.** RCW 79A.80.050 and 2012 c 261 s 6 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 ~~((1))~~ A discover pass or a day-use permit are not required
9 within a state park for persons who have a valid camper registration,
10 or annual natural investment permit, issued by the state parks and
11 recreation commission.

12 ~~((2) The state parks and recreation commission must provide up
13 to twelve days a year where entry to state parks is free. At least
14 three of those days must be on weekends. When practicable, the free
15 access days should be timed to correspond with any similar free
16 access days planned by the national park service for national parks
17 located in the general region of high volume state parks.))~~

18 **Sec. 3.** RCW 79A.05.040 and 1999 c 249 s 401 are each amended to
19 read as follows:

20 (1) In addition to other duties the commission may from time to
21 time impose, it is the duty of the director to:

22 ~~((1))~~ (a) Ensure the control of weeds in parks to the extent
23 required by RCW 17.04.160 and 17.10.205; ~~((and~~

24 ~~(2))~~ (b) Participate in the operations of the environmental
25 enhancement and job creation task force under chapter 43.21J RCW; and

26 (c) Designate free access days pursuant to section 1 of this act.

27 (2) The director has the power reasonably necessary to carry out
28 these duties.

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