By the Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation; and Senator Baker

592-05313-10 20102256c1

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to state parks; creating s. 258.0145, F.S.; providing discounts on annual passes for members and veterans of the United States Armed Forces and reserve forces and for surviving spouses of certain veterans; amending s. 258.004, F.S.; providing additional duties of the Division of Recreation and Parks of the Department of Environmental Protection; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Section 258.0145, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

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258.0145 Military state park fee discounts.—The Division of Recreation and Parks shall provide the following discounts on park fees to persons who present written documentation satisfactory to the division which evidences their eligibility for the discounts:

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(1) Active duty members and honorably discharged veterans of the United States Armed Forces, National Guard, or reserve components thereof shall receive a 25 percent discount on annual entrance passes.

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(2) Honorably discharged veterans who have serviceconnected disabilities shall receive lifetime family annual entrance passes at no charge.

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(3) Surviving spouses of deceased members of the United

States Armed Forces, National Guard, or reserve components

thereof who have fallen in combat shall receive lifetime family

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annual entrance passes at no charge.

Section 2. Subsections (3) through (7) are added to section 258.004, Florida Statutes, to read:

258.004 Duties of division.-

- (3) The Division of Recreation and Parks shall study and appraise the recreation needs of the state and assemble and disseminate information relative to recreation.
- (4) The Division of Recreation and Parks shall provide consultation assistance to the Department of Community Affairs and to local governing units as to the protection, organization, and administration of local recreation systems and the planning and design of local recreation areas and facilities.
- (5) The Division of Recreation and Parks shall assist in recruiting, training, and placing recreation personnel.
- (6) The Division of Recreation and Parks shall sponsor and promote recreation institutes, workshops, seminars, and conferences throughout the state.
- (7) The Division of Recreation and Parks shall cooperate with state and federal agencies, private organizations, and commercial and industrial interests in the promotion of a state recreation program.
 - Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.