

By Senator Abruzzo

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to discounts on public park entrance
3 fees and transportation fares; creating s. 125.029,
4 F.S.; requiring counties to provide a partial or a
5 full discount on park entrance fees to military
6 members, veterans, and the spouse and parents of
7 certain deceased military members, law enforcement
8 officers, firefighters, emergency medical technicians,
9 and paramedics; requiring that individuals seeking the
10 discount present information satisfactory to the
11 county department which evidences eligibility;
12 defining the term "park entrance fee"; providing
13 certain exclusions; creating s. 163.58, F.S.;
14 requiring certain regional transportation authorities
15 to provide a partial or a full discount on fares for
16 certain disabled veterans; creating s. 166.0447, F.S.;
17 requiring municipalities to provide a partial or a
18 full discount on park entrance fees to military
19 members, veterans, and the spouse and parents of
20 certain deceased military members, law enforcement
21 officers, firefighters, emergency medical technicians,
22 and paramedics; requiring that individuals seeking the
23 discount present information satisfactory to the
24 municipal department which evidences eligibility;
25 defining the term "park entrance fee"; providing
26 certain exclusions; providing an effective date.

27
28 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

29
30 Section 1. Section 125.029, Florida Statutes, is created to
31 read:

32 125.029 County park entrance fee discounts.-

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33 (1) A county park or recreation department shall provide a
34 partial or a full discount on park entrance fees to the
35 following individuals who present information satisfactory to
36 the county department which evidences eligibility for the
37 discount:

38 (a) A current member of the United States Armed Forces,
39 their reserve components, or the National Guard.

40 (b) An honorably discharged veteran of the United States
41 Armed Forces, their reserve components, or the National Guard.

42 (c) An honorably discharged veteran of the United States
43 Armed Forces, their reserve components, or the National Guard,
44 who has a service-connected disability as determined by the
45 United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

46 (d) A surviving spouse and parents of a deceased member of
47 the United States Armed Forces, their reserve components, or the
48 National Guard, who died in the line of duty under combat-
49 related conditions.

50 (e) A surviving spouse and parents of a law enforcement
51 officer, as defined in s. 943.10(1), a firefighter, as defined
52 in s. 633.102, or an emergency medical technician or paramedic
53 employed by state or local government, who died in the line of
54 duty.

55 (2) As used in this section, the term "park entrance fee"
56 means a fee charged to access lands managed by a county park or
57 recreation department. The term does not include expanded fees
58 for amenities, such as campgrounds, aquatic facilities, stadiums
59 or arenas, facility rentals, special events, boat launching,
60 golf, zoos, museums, gardens, or programs taking place within
61 public lands.

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62 Section 2. Section 163.58, Florida Statutes, is created to
63 read:

64 163.58 Transportation fare discounts.-An authority, as
65 defined in this chapter, chapter 343, or chapter 349, shall
66 provide a partial or a full discount on fares for the use of a
67 fixed-route transportation system operated by the authority to a
68 disabled veteran as described in s. 295.07(1) (a) who presents
69 information satisfactory to the authority which evidences
70 eligibility for the discount.

71 Section 3. Section 166.0447, Florida Statutes, is created
72 to read:

73 166.0447 Municipal park entrance fee discounts.-

74 (1) A municipal park or recreation department shall provide
75 a partial or a full discount on park entrance fees to the
76 following individuals who present information satisfactory to
77 the municipal department which evidences eligibility for the
78 discount:

79 (a) A current member of the United States Armed Forces,
80 their reserve components, or the National Guard.

81 (b) An honorably discharged veteran of the United States
82 Armed Forces, their reserve components, or the National Guard.

83 (c) An honorably discharged veteran of the United States
84 Armed Forces, their reserve components, or the National Guard,
85 who has a service-connected disability as determined by the
86 United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

87 (d) A surviving spouse and parents of a deceased member of
88 the United States Armed Forces, their reserve components, or the
89 National Guard, who died in the line of duty under combat-
90 related conditions.

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91 (e) A surviving spouse and parents of a law enforcement
92 officer, as defined in s. 943.10(1), a firefighter, as defined
93 in s. 633.102, or an emergency medical technician or paramedic
94 employed by state or local government, who died in the line of
95 duty.

96 (2) As used in this section, the term "park entrance fee"
97 means a fee charged to access lands managed by a municipal park
98 or recreation department. The term does not include expanded
99 fees for amenities, such as campgrounds, aquatic facilities,
100 stadiums or arenas, facility rentals, special events, boat
101 launching, golf, zoos, museums, gardens, or programs taking
102 place within public lands.

103 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.