BILL SUMMARY

1st Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.: SB673 Version: ENGR

Request Number:

Author:Rep. HumphreyDate:3/31/2023Impact:See Analysis Below

Research Analysis

SB 673 allows the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department to enforce an administrative fine for any person who occupies a campsite designated as reserved or who fails to pay the park entry fee. The fines are not to exceed \$50 for a first offense, \$100 for a second offense, and \$250 for third and subsequent offenses. The measure restricts the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Commission to only collect a day-use entry fee for recreational vehicles and travel trailers at a maximum rate of \$8 per day. It also prohibits the Commission from establishing annual passes that restrict access to state parks for visitors not using recreational vehicles or travel trailers.

Prepared By: Keana Swadley

Fiscal Analysis

SB673 implements several changes at the State Parks, run by the Oklahoma Department of Tourism and Recreation (OTRD).

First, it sets administrative fees for two violations at State Parks. The first is for those who fail to vacate a "Reserved" campsite within a reasonable amount of time after being notified by OTRD staff to vacate. The second is for those who enter a state park with a recreational vehicle or travel trailer without having paid an entry fee. There is a fine schedule established for each warning, but as these are two new violations, there is no known number of violations, and therefore the potential income revenue is unknown.

The second change is that it removes the current parking pass structure and implements a new one where recreational vehicles and travel trailers may be charged no more than \$8.00 per day. It does allow the Commission to establish an annual pass or other parking passes. The current revenue from parking passes is \$2,600,000.00. This revenue amount would likely change under the new passes, but by how much is unknown. Additionally, the changes would require an early termination of the contract with the parking pass vendor, which would cost OTRD \$180,000.00.

Given the information above, there is a minimum immediate cost to OTRD of \$180,000.00 with terminating the current contract. There is potential for increased revenue that has dedicated uses, but it is unknown how much revenue may be received from these new passes or new violations. Therefore, the total impact to OTRD is unknown at this time.

Prepared By: Mariah Searock, House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.

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