As Passed by the Senate

136th General Assembly

Regular Session 2025-2026

Am. S. B. No. 223

Senator Patton

Cosponsors: Senators Johnson, Antonio, Blackshear, Brenner, Chavez, Cirino, Craig, DeMora, Gavarone, Hicks-Hudson, Ingram, Landis, Lang, Liston, O'Brien, Reineke, Roegner, Romanchuk, Schaffer, Smith, Timken, Weinstein, Wilson

То	amend section 1546.04 of the Revised Code to	1
	require the ODNR Chief of the Division of Parks	2
	and Watercraft to establish a discount program	3
	for veterans and service members for park	4
	services and rentals.	5

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 1546.04 of the Revised Code be	6
amended to read as follows:	7
Sec. 1546.04. (A) Except as provided in this section, the	8
chief of the division of parks and watercraft, with the approval	9
of the director of natural resources, shall adopt rules in	10
accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code that are	11
necessary for the proper management of state parks, bodies of	12
water, and the lands adjacent to them under its jurisdiction and	13
control, including rules:	14
(1) Governing opening and closing times and dates of state	15
parks;	16
(2) Establishing fees and charges for use of facilities in	17

state parks;	18
(3) Governing camps, camping, and fees for camps and	19
camping;	20
(4) Governing the application for and rental of, rental	21
fees for, and the use of cottages;	22
(5) Relating to public use of state park lands, and	23
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governing the operation of motor vehicles, including speeds and	
parking on those lands;	25
(6) Governing all advertising within state parks and	26
requirements for the operation of places selling tangible	27
personal property and food service sales on lands and waters	28
under the control of the division. The rules shall establish	29
uniform requirements for those operations and sales.	30
(7) Providing uniform standards relating to the size,	31
type, location, construction, and maintenance of structures and	32
devices used for fishing or moorage of watercraft, rowboats,	33
sailboats, and powercraft over waters under the control of the	34
division and establishing reasonable fees for the construction	35
of, and annual use permits for, those structures and devices;	36
(8) Governing state beaches, swimming, inflatable devices,	37
and fees for them;	38
(9) Governing the removal and disposition of any	39
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watercraft, rowboat, sailboat, or powercraft left unattended for	
more than seven days on any lands or waters under the control of	41
the division;	42
(10) Governing the establishment and collection of check	43
collection charges for checks that are returned to the division	44
or dishonored for any reason;	45

(11) Governing natural resources officers in all parks and	46
bodies of water and lands adjacent to those bodies under the	47
supervision and control of the division as are necessary to the	
proper management of such parks and bodies of water.	49
(B)(B)(1) The chief shall adopt rules in accordance with	50
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code establishing a discount program	51
for all persons who are issued a golden buckeye card under	52
section 173.06 of the Revised Code. The discount program shall	53
provide a discount for all park services and rentals, but shall	54
not provide a discount for the purchase of merchandise.	55
(2) The chief also shall adopt rules in accordance with	56
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code establishing a discount program	57
for all veterans and service members who present, in a manner	
determined by the chief, a valid form of documentation. The	
discount program shall provide a twenty-five per cent discount	
for all park services and rentals but shall not provide a	
discount for the purchase of merchandise.	
(3) As used in division (B)(2) of this section:	63
(a) "Veteran" and "service member" have the same meanings	64
as in section 5903.01 of the Revised Code.	65
(b) "Valid form of documentation" means any of the	66
following:	
(i) An Ohio veterans identification card issued under	68
section 317.241 of the Revised Code;	69
(ii) A United States department of defense authorized	70
common access card;	71
(iii) A United States department of defense uniformed	72
services identification and privilege card DD form 1173;	73

Am. S. B. No. 223 As Passed by the Senate	Page 5
statutory and constitutional provisions governing searches and	103
seizures by law enforcement officers;	104
(5) Fees and charges for all of the following:	105
(a) Boating skill development classes and other	106
educational classes;	107
(b) Law enforcement services provided at special events	108
when the services are in addition to normal enforcement duties;	109
(c) Inspections of vessels or motors conducted under	110
Chapter 1547. or Chapter 1548. of the Revised Code.	111
(D) The chief shall not adopt rules under this section	112
establishing fees or charges for parking a motor vehicle in a	113
state park or for admission to a state park.	114
Section 2. That existing section 1546.04 of the Revised	115
Code is hereby repealed.	116