

**Senate Study Bill 3076 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
WAYS AND MEANS BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON FEENSTRA)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act authorizing the department of natural resources to  
2 establish certain fees at state parks and recreation areas.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 455A.14 Camping and rental  
2 facilities and other privileges — fees.

3 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary,  
4 the department is authorized to establish fees for camping  
5 and use of rental facilities and other special privileges at  
6 state parks and recreation areas under the jurisdiction of the  
7 department.

8 2. The fees established by the department pursuant to this  
9 section shall be in such amounts as may be determined by the  
10 department based on the cost of providing the privileges and  
11 the reasonable value of such privileges. Such fees may be  
12 increased, reduced, or waived by the department for special  
13 promotional events or efforts or on the basis of special  
14 seasonal or holiday rates, on a statewide basis or on the basis  
15 of an individual state park or recreation area.

16 3. Fees established pursuant to this section shall be  
17 considered a specification of prices to be charged for goods or  
18 services as provided in section 17A.2, subsection 11, paragraph  
19 "g".

20 4. The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A  
21 for the purpose of setting forth the methodology to be used in  
22 establishing fees pursuant to this section.

23 5. The department shall prepare an annual report reviewing  
24 the fees established pursuant to this section. The report  
25 shall include information about fees and occupancy rates  
26 at each camping and rental facility in the state under the  
27 jurisdiction of the department, special promotional events or  
28 holiday rates for which fees were increased, reduced, or waived  
29 at those camping and rental facilities, and any recommendations  
30 for changes in fees or rules adopted pursuant to this section.  
31 The report shall be submitted to the park advisory oversight  
32 committee by December 31 of each year.

33 6. A park advisory oversight committee is established,  
34 which shall consist of the chairpersons, vice chairpersons, and  
35 ranking members of the senate standing committee on natural

1 resources and environment and the house standing committee on  
2 natural resources. The committee shall meet annually to review  
3 the report submitted by the department pursuant to subsection  
4 5. The committee shall submit any recommendations, based  
5 on that review, to the senate standing committee on natural  
6 resources and environment and the house standing committee on  
7 natural resources.

8 Sec. 2. REPEAL. Sections 455A.12 and 461A.47, Code 2018,  
9 are repealed.

10

EXPLANATION

11

The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
12 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

12

13 This bill provides that, notwithstanding any provision of  
14 law to the contrary, the department of natural resources is  
15 authorized to establish fees for camping and use of rental  
16 facilities and other special privileges at state parks and  
17 recreation areas under the jurisdiction of the department.  
18 Currently, the natural resource commission is authorized to  
19 establish such fees under Code section 461A.47, which is  
20 repealed by the bill.

21 The bill also provides that fees established by the  
22 department pursuant to the bill's provisions shall be in such  
23 amounts as may be determined by the department based on the  
24 cost of providing the privileges and the reasonable value  
25 of such privileges. Such fees may be increased, reduced,  
26 or waived by the department for special promotional events  
27 or efforts or on the basis of special seasonal or holiday  
28 rates, on a statewide basis or on the basis of an individual  
29 state park or recreation area. The bill provides that fees  
30 established pursuant to the bill are considered a specification  
31 of the prices to be charged for goods or services sold by  
32 an agency and are not considered rules for purposes of Code  
33 chapter 17A. The department is required to adopt rules that  
34 set forth the methodology to be used in establishing the fees.

35 The bill requires the department to prepare an annual report

1 that reviews the fees, occupancy rates, and events and provides  
2 recommendations for changes in fees for rules adopted pursuant  
3 to the bill. The department shall submit the report to a newly  
4 established park advisory oversight committee, which shall  
5 consist of the chairpersons, vice chairpersons, and ranking  
6 members of the senate standing committee on natural resources  
7 and environment and the house standing committee on natural  
8 resources. After reviewing the report, the advisory committee  
9 shall make recommendations to the senate standing committee  
10 on natural resources and environment and the house standing  
11 committee on natural resources.

12 Code section 455A.12 relating to the sale of gift  
13 certificates by the department for free camping and other  
14 special privileges at state parks and recreation areas is  
15 repealed.