



[SF 529](#) – Horse Trails (LSB2430SV)
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Fiscal Note Version – New

Description

[Senate File 529](#) allows a person to make a reservation at an equestrian campground three months in advance of the date of the person's reservation if the person attests during registration, and proves upon check-in, that the person will stable equine animals during the person's stay. Any other person may also make a reservation at an equestrian campground but may only do so up to two months in advance.

The Bill expands the list of simple misdemeanors relating to camping on public lands by including a violation if a person reserves an equestrian campground more than three months in advance, but does not use it to stable equine animals during a person's stay.

Background

Currently, reservations for campgrounds can be made three months in advance. Both equestrian and nonequestrian campers may camp at equestrian campgrounds, and both may reserve a space in the three-month window. Equestrian campgrounds are sites that have amenities and trails for equine animals.

Assumptions

- The following will not change over the projection period: charge, conviction, and sentencing patterns and trends; prisoner length of stay (LOS); revocation rates; plea bargaining; and other criminal justice system policies and practices.
- A lag effect of six months is assumed from the effective date of this Bill to the date of first entry of affected offenders into the correctional system.
- Marginal costs for county jails cannot be estimated due to a lack of data. For purposes of this analysis, the marginal cost for county jails is assumed to be \$50 per day.

Correctional Impact

Senate File 529 expands a simple misdemeanor. As a result, the correctional impact cannot be estimated due to a lack of existing data. In FY 2022, there were three violations related to camping on public lands. A conviction for a simple misdemeanor does not result in a prison sentence but does carry the possibility of confinement in jail for up to 30 days. Refer to the Legislative Services Agency (LSA) memo addressed to the General Assembly, [Cost Estimates Used for Correctional Impact Statements](#), dated January 20, 2023, for information related to the correctional system.

Minority Impact

Senate File 529 expands an offense, and the minority impact cannot be determined due to a lack of conviction data. Refer to the LSA memo addressed to the General Assembly, [Minority Impact Statement](#), dated January 20, 2023, for information related to minorities in the criminal justice system.

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact related to the creation of a new criminal offense cannot be estimated due to a lack of existing data. The average State cost for one simple misdemeanor conviction ranges from \$35 to \$375.

Sources

Department of Natural Resources
Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning, Department of Human Rights
Legislative Services Agency

/s/ Jennifer Acton

March 8, 2023

Doc ID 1370506

The fiscal note for this Bill was prepared pursuant to [Joint Rule 17](#) and the Iowa Code. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.

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