



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 2013

PRINTERS NO. 3647

PRIME SPONSOR: Ellis

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2015/16	FY 2016/17
General Fund	\$0	See Fiscal Impact

SUMMARY: House Bill 2013, Printer's Number 3647, establishes the Public-Private State Park Partnership Pilot Program in the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

ANALYSIS: This bill amends the Conservation and Natural Resources Act (Act 18 of 1995) to establish the Public-Private State Park Partnership Pilot Program within the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). The department is authorized to initiate the pilot program to address and consider additional recreational, lodging and ancillary facilities, which includes hotels, inns, restaurants, amusement or water parks, outdoor sports facilities, golf courses, swimming pools or other public recreational facilities, or maintenance structures or facilities necessary to support additional facilities.

DCNR shall have the following duties to administer this pilot program:

- (1) Selecting a consultant through an appropriate procurement mechanism to conduct an inventory of existing State park assets and issue recommendations where additional recreational, lodging and ancillary facilities in State parks can be developed to the benefit of the general public.
- (2) Determining if a recommended public-private project is consistent with the purposes of the department's mission as set forth under section 303(a)(3).
- (3) Adopting guidelines establishing the procedure by which a private entity may submit a plan to develop additional recreational, lodging or ancillary facilities in State parks.
- (4) Submitting a report to the General Assembly detailing all additional recreational, lodging and ancillary facilities in State parks evaluated and recommended.

The bill also exempts the department from selecting a consultant, implementing any public-private partnership project or executing any agreement with a private entity if sufficient funds are not appropriated for the procurement mechanism and the specific recreational, lodging or ancillary facility project. Any such funding is to be deposited in a dedicated public-private State parks account.

This legislation would take effect in 90 days upon enactment.

FISCAL IMPACT: Enactment of this bill will have no adverse fiscal impact on Commonwealth funds. The department would be exempt from any costs and duties related to the legislation unless sufficient funds are appropriated for the specific recreational, lodging or ancillary facility project. Such funding for the program would be deposited in a dedicated public-private State parks account, which would have to be created as well. If an appropriation is made, the department will have several administrative and operating costs related to the program and preparing an inventory of the DCNR State Park system. Some of the most significant costs incurred would be studies prepared by a consultant hired to inventory, assess and determine potential new and additional activities as outlined in the bill.

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House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: June 28, 2016

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.