

## HOUSE BILL NO. 423

INTRODUCED BY E. BUTTREY

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING A CAMPING FEE DISCOUNT AT STATE PARKS FOR VETERANS; AND AMENDING SECTION 23-1-105, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 23-1-105, MCA, is amended to read:

**"23-1-105. Fees and charges -- use of motor vehicle registration fee.** (1) The department may levy and collect reasonable fees or other charges for the use of privileges and conveniences that may be provided and to grant concessions that it considers advisable, except as provided in subsections (2) and (6). All money derived from the activities of the department, except as provided in subsection (5), must be deposited in the state treasury in a state special revenue fund to the credit of the department. [This state special revenue fund is subject to legislative fund transfer.]

(2) Overnight camping fees established by the department under subsection (1) must be discounted 50% for a campsite rented by a person who is a resident of Montana, as defined in 87-2-102, and is: either

(a) 62 years of age or older; or

(b) certified as disabled in accordance with rules adopted by the department; or

(c) a veteran of the armed forces. While camping at a discounted rate, the veteran shall carry proof of the person's veteran status, such as a DD form 214, U.S. department of veterans affairs identification card, or a driver's license indicating the person's veteran status.

(3) For a violation of any fee collection rule involving a vehicle, the registered owner of the vehicle at the time of the violation is personally responsible if an adult is not in the vehicle at the time the violation is discovered by an authorized officer. A defense that the vehicle was driven into the fee area by another person is not allowable unless it is shown that at that time, the vehicle was being used without the consent of the registered owner.

(4) Money received from the collection of fees and charges is subject to the deposit requirements of 17-6-105(6) unless the department has submitted and received approval for a modified deposit schedule pursuant to 17-6-105(8).

