

1-1 By: Leach, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Hancock) H.B. No. 1740
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 8, 2023;
 1-3 May 9, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Veteran
 1-4 Affairs; May 12, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote:
 1-5 Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 12, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Hancock	X			
1-8 Parker	X			
1-9 Blanco	X			
1-10 Eckhardt			X	
1-11 Gutierrez			X	
1-12 Hall	X			
1-13 Sparks	X			

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to the issuance of state parklands passports to and a
 1-18 waiver of certain state park fees for certain veterans, active duty
 1-19 armed forces members, and certain family members of a person who
 1-20 died while serving in the United States armed forces.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. Section 13.018, Parks and Wildlife Code, is
 1-23 amended by amending Subsections (a), (c), and (e) and adding
 1-24 Subsection (f) to read as follows:

1-25 (a) The following people may apply to the department for a
 1-26 state parklands passport:

1-27 (1) a resident of this state who is 65 years old or
 1-28 over who has resided in the state for six consecutive months
 1-29 preceding the date of application for a parklands passport [~~a~~
 1-30 ~~member of the United States armed forces on active duty who is 65~~
 1-31 ~~years old or over,~~] or any other individual in a category that the
 1-32 commission by rule designates as a resident of this state who is 65
 1-33 years old or over;

1-34 (2) an honorably discharged [a] veteran of the United
 1-35 States armed services [of the United States who, as a result of
 1-36 military service, has a service-connected disability, as defined by
 1-37 the Veterans' Administration, consisting of the loss of the use of a
 1-38 lower extremity or of a 60 percent disability rating and who is
 1-39 receiving compensation from the United States because of the
 1-40 disability]; [and]

1-41 (3) a member of the United States armed services on
 1-42 active duty;

1-43 (4) a surviving spouse, parent, child, or sibling of a
 1-44 person who died while serving in the United States armed forces; and

1-45 (5) an individual who has a physical or mental
 1-46 impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life
 1-47 activities of the individual.

1-48 (c) The holder of a state parklands passport issued on or
 1-49 before August 31, 1995, a person whose birth date is before
 1-50 September 1, 1930, or a person [veteran] described by Subsection
 1-51 (a)(2), (3), or (4) is entitled to enter any state park without
 1-52 payment of an entrance or admission fee. When a fee is charged by
 1-53 the department for entrance of a vehicle into a state park, the
 1-54 vehicle of the holder of a state parklands passport is exempt from
 1-55 the fee when the holder is present.

1-56 (e) A state parklands passport issued to a person described
 1-57 by Subsection (a)(3) is valid for one year from the date of issuance
 1-58 and may be renewed in the manner prescribed by commission rule.

1-59 (f) The commission by rule shall establish eligibility
 1-60 requirements and privileges available to the holder of a state
 1-61 parklands passport described by Subsection (a)(5) [~~(a)(3)~~].

2-1 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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