

# Legislative Analysis

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## **WAIVER OF STATE RECREATIONAL FEES FOR CERTAIN DISABLED VETERANS & POWs**

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**House Bill 5189**

**Sponsor: Rep. Gary McDowell**

**Committee: Military and Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security**

**Complete to 1-29-08**

### **A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5189 AS INTRODUCED 9-7-07**

The bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA) to provide an exemption from certain fees for a resident who has been determined by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to be permanently and totally disabled as a result of military service and entitled to veterans' benefits at the 100 percent rate, for a disability other than blindness, or for a resident who has been a prisoner of war.

The amendment to Section 43537 would grant an exemption from all fees in Part 435, which addresses hunting and fishing licenses. Those eligible could obtain licenses free of charge.

The amendment to Section 74117 would grant an exemption from state park entry and camping fees.

The amendment to Section 83106 would grant an exemption from camping permit fees.

The Department of Natural Resources could demand proof of eligibility.

MCL 324.43537, et al.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

This bill would have an indeterminate negative fiscal impact on the Game and Fish Protection Fund and the Park Improvement Fund. The actual loss in revenue would depend on the number of disabled veterans provided fee waivers authorized by this bill.

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