

# HOUSE BILL NO. 4743

July 22, 2025, Introduced by Reps. Woolford, Pavlov, Robinson, DeBoer, Aragona, Wozniak, Schuette, St. Germaine, Beson, Linting, Roth, BeGole, Kelly, Bruck and Greene and referred to Committee on Natural Resources and Tourism.

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled  
"Natural resources and environmental protection act,"  
by amending section 74116 (MCL 324.74116), as amended by 2016 PA 1.

## **THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1       Sec. 74116. (1) Subject to subsection (4), the operator of a  
2 nonresident motor vehicle or commercial motor vehicle shall not  
3 enter any state park with that motor vehicle unless a valid motor  
4 vehicle park permit issued under section 74117 is affixed to the  
5 lower right-hand corner of the windshield. An annual motor vehicle  
6 park permit for a nonresident motor vehicle ~~shall~~**must** be affixed

1 permanently for that year. The department shall post signs at parks  
2 that state that a motor vehicle park permit is required for entry  
3 by a nonresident motor vehicle or commercial motor vehicle.

4 (2) Subject to subsection (4), the operator of a resident  
5 motor vehicle shall not enter a state park with the resident motor  
6 vehicle unless the recreation passport fee has been paid for that  
7 motor vehicle. Payment of the recreation passport fee authorizes  
8 entry into all state parks and recreation areas and designated  
9 state-operated public boating access sites until expiration of the  
10 motor vehicle registration.

11 (3) Subject to subsection (4), if the secretary of state  
12 issues registration tabs or stickers as described in section 805 of  
13 the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.805, the operator  
14 of a resident motor vehicle shall not enter a state park with the  
15 resident motor vehicle unless the resident motor vehicle has a  
16 registration tab or sticker marked as provided under that section  
17 to show that the recreation passport fee has been paid.

18 (4) Subsections (1) to (3) do not apply under any of the  
19 following circumstances:

20 (a) While the motor vehicle is being driven or parked within  
21 an established federal, state, or county highway within a state  
22 park.

23 (b) If the motor vehicle is used in the operation or  
24 maintenance of a state park, is an emergency motor vehicle, is a  
25 state owned or law enforcement motor vehicle, or is a private motor  
26 vehicle being operated on official state business.

27 (c) If the motor vehicle is registered under section 803e(1)  
28 of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.803e, and is  
29 exempt under section 803e(6) of the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA

1 300, MCL 257.803e, from the registration tax, or if the motor  
2 vehicle is registered under section 217d or 803f of the Michigan  
3 vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.217d and 257.803f.

4 (d) At a state-operated public boating access site or a state  
5 park where there is an opportunity to fish on a day that the  
6 department has designated as a free winter fishing day or a free  
7 fishing day under section 43534.

8 (e) If and to the extent that the department waives the  
9 requirements for department-sponsored events or other circumstances  
10 as determined by the director or the director's designee.

11 (f) If the motor vehicle appropriately displays, in a manner  
12 determined by the department of natural resources, a hangtag,  
13 sticker, or other type of form that identifies the owner or  
14 operator as a resident who is an honorably discharged veteran. On  
15 the request of a resident, the department of military and veterans  
16 affairs shall verify the resident's status as an honorably  
17 discharged veteran. After verification, the department of military  
18 and veterans affairs shall issue to the resident a hangtag,  
19 sticker, or other type of form agreed to by the department of  
20 natural resources for the purposes of this subdivision.