

1 **State Park Accessibility Amendments**

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Douglas R. Welton

Senate Sponsor:

3 **LONG TITLE**

4 **General Description:**

5 This bill addresses provisions related to wheelchair accessibility in state parks.

6 **Highlighted Provisions:**

7 This bill:

8 ▶ requires the Division of State Parks (division) to implement a pilot program for offering
9 rental mobility wheelchairs in at least two state parks;

10 ▶ requires the division to study the progress of the pilot program;

11 ▶ provides for rulemaking by the division to implement the pilot program; and

12 ▶ provides a repeal date for the pilot program and study.

13 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

14 None

15 **Other Special Clauses:**

16 None

17 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

18 AMENDS:

19 **63I-2-279**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Third Special Session, Chapter 5

20 ENACTS:

21 **79-4-1003**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

23 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

24 Section 1. Section **63I-2-279** is amended to read:

25 **63I-2-279 . Repeal dates: Title 79.**

26 (1) Section 79-2-206, Transition, is repealed July 1, 2024.

27 (2) Section 79-2-407, Study of funding for water infrastructure costs, is repealed July 1,
28 2025.

29 (3) Subsection 79-4-1002(2), regarding a pilot program for veteran free admission to state
30 parks, is repealed July 1, 2025.

31 (4) Section 79-4-1003, Wheelchair accessibility pilot program and study, is repealed July 1,
32 2026.

33 [(4)] (5) Section 79-7-303, Zion National Park Support Programs Restricted Account, is
34 repealed July 1, 2024.

35 Section 2. Section **79-4-1003** is enacted to read:

36 **79-4-1003 . Wheelchair accessibility pilot program and study.**

37 (1) As used in this section:

38 (a) "Committee" means the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Interim
39 Committee.

40 (b) "Mobility wheelchair" means a manually-operated or power-driven wheelchair
41 designed for use on outdoor trails.

42 (c) "Pilot program" means the pilot program described in Subsection (2).

43 (2)(a) By no later than July 1, 2025, the division shall implement a pilot program that:

44 (i) offers mobility wheelchairs for rent in at least two state parks;

45 (ii) clearly designates which state park trails are accessible by a mobility wheelchair;
46 and

47 (iii) notifies a renter of a mobility wheelchair of the accessible trails described in
48 Subsection (2)(a)(ii).

49 (b) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the
50 division may make rules to establish the pilot program described in Subsection (2)(a).

51 (3) The division shall report to the committee at or before the committee's October 2025
52 interim meeting regarding:

53 (a) the progress of the pilot program, including:

54 (i) costs associated with starting and maintaining the pilot program;

55 (ii) usage of the pilot program; and

56 (iii) other information about the pilot program the division may deem useful to the
57 committee;

58 (b) the feasibility of expanding the pilot program; and

59 (c) the division's recommendations for continuing or discontinuing the pilot program.

60 Section 3. **Effective date.**

61 This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.