STATE OF NEW YORK

7706

IN SENATE

February 10, 2020

Introduced by Sen. SKOUFIS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Parks and Recreation

AN ACT to amend the parks, recreation and historic preservation law, in relation to allowing persons who are permanently disabled and require the use of a wheelchair to have free use of any of the public campsites, parks and other public places of recreation in this state

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 13.19 of the parks, recreation and historic preservation law, as amended by chapter 649 of the laws of 1977, is amended to read as follows:

§ 13.19 Free use of campsites. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, any person who is blind, non-ambulatory, or an amputee or any veteran of the wars of the United States, who has at any time been awarded by the federal government an allowance towards the purchase of an automobile or is eligible for such an award shall be permitted to use any of the public campsites, parks and other public places of recreation in this state, upon the same terms and conditions as apply to the general public, but without the payment of any fees or other charges for the use of such campsites, parks and other public places of recreation. **For purposes of this section, "non-ambulatory" shall mean a person who is permanently disabled and requires the use of a wheelchair to access park facilities or is unable to move about in a field, wood, or other natural area without mechanical assistance.**

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD15250-01-0