



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 803

January Session, 2025

House Bill No. 6982

House of Representatives, April 29, 2025

The Committee on Judiciary reported through REP. STAFSTROM of the 129th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING LIABILITY FOR INJURIES INHERENT IN CAMPING WHILE AT A PRIVATE CAMPGROUND.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section:
- 2 (1) "Camper" means any person who uses a private campground for
- 3 the purpose of camping or recreational vehicle camping;
- 4 (2) "Camping" means all aspects of visiting, staying at, using and
- 5 leaving a private campground, including the use of lodging of all types
- 6 while at a private campground; and
- 7 (3) "Private campground" means any parcel or tract of land, including
- 8 buildings and other structures on such land, that is owned or operated
- 9 by a private property owner where five or more campsites are made
- 10 available for use as temporary living quarters for recreational camping,
- 11 travel or seasonal use. "Private campground" includes recreational
- 12 vehicle parks operated by a private property owner.

13 (b) Each camper shall assume the risk for any injury to their person
14 arising out of the hazards inherent in camping.

15 (c) Nothing in subsection (b) of this section shall prevent suit or limit
16 the liability of a private campground owner or operator who in the
17 operation of the private campground: (1) Commits an act or omission
18 that constitutes negligence; (2) intentionally causes the injury of another
19 person; (3) acts with a disregard for the safety of the person injured; (4)
20 fails to use a degree of care that an ordinarily careful prudent person
21 would use under similar circumstances; or (5) fails to conspicuously
22 post warning signs of a condition known to be dangerous at the private
23 campground.

24 (d) Any written contract between a private campground owner and
25 a camper, or an employee or officer of a private campground owner and
26 a camper, shall contain in clearly readable print, a warning notice stating
27 that each camper shall assume the risk for any injury to their person
28 arising out of the hazards inherent in camping.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2025	New section

JUD *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill limits the liability of certain private campground owners and operators which is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact to the state or to municipalities as this is limited to private entities.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 6982*****AN ACT CONCERNING LIABILITY FOR INJURIES INHERENT IN CAMPING WHILE AT A PRIVATE CAMPGROUND.*****SUMMARY**

This bill limits the liability of certain private campground owners and operators. It does so by requiring that each “camper” (i.e. anyone who uses a private campground for camping or recreational vehicle camping) assume the risk for any injury to their person from the hazards inherent in camping.

However, the bill specifies that it does not prevent suit or limit the liability of a private campground owner or operator who, while operating the private campground, does any of the following:

1. commits an act or omission that is negligence;
2. intentionally causes the injury of another person;
3. acts with a disregard for the injured person’s safety;
4. fails to use a degree of care that an ordinarily careful, prudent person would use in similar circumstances; or
5. fails to conspicuously post warning signs of a condition known to be dangerous at the private campground.

The bill also requires any written contract between a camper and a private campground owner (or a private campground owner’s employee or officer) to contain, in clearly readable print, a warning notice stating that each camper assumes the risk for any injury to their person from the hazards inherent in camping.

Under the bill, “camping” means all aspects of visiting, staying at,

using, and leaving a private campground, including using any lodging while at a private campground.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

PRIVATE CAMPGROUND

For purposes of this bill, a “private campground” is any parcel or tract of land, including buildings and other structures on it, owned or operated by a private property owner where five or more campsites are made available for use as temporary living quarters for recreational camping, travel, or seasonal use. Under the bill, “private campground” includes recreational vehicle parks operated by a private property owner.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 39 Nay 0 (04/10/2025)