



1 rates, tolls or charges or any increase in any rates, tolls or  
2 charges along any portion of the parkway project, the Parkways  
3 Authority shall create a discount program for purchasers of West  
4 Virginia EZ Pass transponders. Any discount program created  
5 pursuant to this section shall provide discounts for each class of  
6 motor vehicles.

7 (b) The Authority shall provide public notice and hold public  
8 hearings on any proposed discount program as required in section  
9 thirteen-a of this article prior to implementation of such program.

10 (c) Annually, the Parkways Authority shall hold at least one  
11 public informational session in each of the following counties:  
12 Kanawha, Fayette, Raleigh and Mercer counties. The Authority is to  
13 distribute educational materials and other information concerning  
14 the discount program for purchasers of West Virginia EZ Pass  
15 transponders described in this section.

16 (d) Upon the effective date of the amendments to this section  
17 enacted during the regular session of the Legislature in the year  
18 2010, the Authority shall make available West Virginia EZ Pass  
19 transponders to the public without the payment of any monetary  
20 security deposit. The Authority shall credit any individual that  
21 has paid a security deposit for a West Virginia EZ Pass transponder  
22 prior to July 1, 2010, on the individual's next billing statement.

23 (e) For purposes of this section, a "West Virginia EZ Pass  
24 transponder" means a device sold by the Parkways Authority which

1 allows the purchaser to attach the device to his or her motor  
2 vehicle and travel through a Parkways toll facility and be billed  
3 for such travel by the Authority.

4 (f) The Parkways Authority shall provide to the Beckley VA  
5 Medical Center a sufficient number of free daily toll passes to  
6 permit a veteran who is scheduled for medical care at the center  
7 during the following six months to travel over the parkway project  
8 to and from the center without paying any tolls. The Authority  
9 shall cooperate with the Beckley VA Center to create and implement  
10 a program that will provide to the center, in advance, a sufficient  
11 supply of daily toll free passes and restrict the use of the passes  
12 to only those days on which a veteran needs to travel to and from  
13 the center for medical care. For the purposes of this subsection,  
14 the word "Veteran" has the same meaning as in section seven,  
15 article one, chapter nine-a of this code.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require the Parkways Authority to provide the Beckley VA Medical Center a sufficient number of free daily toll passes to permit Veterans who travel to that center for medical care to travel the West Virginia Turnpike without paying tolls.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.