

Federal Interior Land Media Act (FILM Act) Section-By-Section

Section 1. Short Title

This section states the short title of the bill as the Federal Interior Land Media Act (FILM Act).

Section 2. Exceptions for Permitting and Fee Requirements for Certain Content Creation, Regardless of Distribution Platform, to Include Digital or Analog Video or Digital and Analog Audio Recording Activities Conducted on Land under the Jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture and Secretary of the Interior.

This section provides that a permit or fee shall not be required for commercial or non-commercial content creation, regardless of distribution platform (to include digital or analog video or digital or analog audio recording activity (herein referred to as ‘covered activity’), as long as the covered activity:

- Takes place at a location in which the public is allowed;
- Complies with applicable visitor use policies and state and local laws;
- Is conducted in a manner that does not impede on experiences of other visitors and does not disturb resource values or wildlife;
- Involves individuals or small group of not more than 10 individuals; and
- Does not require the exclusive use of a site or area to conduct the covered activity.

The Secretary involved may elect to require a permit or fee if the covered activity takes place at a location in which members of the public are generally not allowed, if the activity is to be conducted in an area that receives high volume visitation, requires a set or staging equipment that is not part of the natural landscape, or includes a group size greater than 11 individuals. A reasonable fee may be required if additional administrative costs are likely to be incurred with respect to the activity.

Individuals or small groups of 10 or fewer may voluntarily request a permit for the covered activity, even if the criteria for the exception is met, should they want the benefit of assurances that a permit may afford.

In addition, to maximize efficiencies, if it is determined that a permit is required, and more than one federal agency or jurisdictional units within an agency are involved, the agencies or units shall, to the maximum extent practicable, coordinate permit processing procedures and identify a lead permit office and/or lead point of contact to process permits for the covered activity.