

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2004 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Revised**

House Bill 1335

(Delegate Edwards)

Environmental Matters

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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**Natural Resources - Hunting License Requirements - Exceptions**

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This bill exempts nonresident owners of farmland and their spouses, children, and children's spouses from the requirement to obtain a hunting license to hunt on that land if the parcel is located in Maryland and an adjacent state, the owner's primary residence is on that parcel, and the adjacent state extends a similar privilege to Maryland residents.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Special fund revenues could decrease minimally beginning in FY 2005 as a result of any decrease in nonresident hunting licenses/stamps sold. Federal fund revenues could decrease minimally beginning in FY 2007 to the extent the total number of licensed hunters in the State decreases as a result of the bill.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Current law exempts Maryland residents from having to purchase a hunting license to hunt on their own property. This exemption does not apply to nonresidents hunting on property they own within the State. Currently, those individuals generally are classified as nonresidents and thus must purchase a nonresident hunting license to hunt on the Maryland portion of their property. Fees for nonresident hunting licenses for adjacent states are as follows: Virginia, \$140; West Virginia, \$135; Pennsylvania, \$101; and Delaware, \$86. Nonresident individual hunting stamps (bow

and arrow, black powder, and bonus antlered deer stamp) are \$25 each. License/stamp fees are generally paid into the Wildlife Management and Protection Fund.

**Background:** The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) advises that currently, Virginia is the only adjacent state that extends this privilege to Maryland residents.

**State Revenues:** Special fund revenues from nonresident license/stamp fees could decrease minimally beginning in fiscal 2005. For each nonresident license that otherwise would have been sold, total revenues from license sales would decrease by: for residents of Virginia, \$140; for residents of West Virginia, \$135; for residents of Pennsylvania, \$101; and for residents of Delaware, \$86. For each nonresident individual hunting stamp that otherwise would have been sold, total revenues would decrease by \$25. Agents keep \$1.50 for each nonresident hunting license they sell and \$0.75 for each individual hunting stamp they sell.

The number of licensed hunters drives federal funding provided to DNR; accordingly, federal fund revenues would decrease by \$5 for each individual no longer licensed due to the bill's exemption. Federal fund revenues could not be affected until fiscal 2007; the number of licensed hunters in fiscal 2005 drives federal funds provided in fiscal 2007.

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### Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Natural Resources, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 17, 2004  
ncs/ljm Revised - Enrolled Bill - May 5, 2004

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