

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

Senate Bill 183

(Senator Simonaire)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Environment and Transportation

Natural Resources - Electronic Licensing - Recreational License Donation Fund -
Donations

This bill requires the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to, as part of its electronic licensing system, create an opportunity for a person purchasing an angler's, sport fishing, or hunting license and any corresponding stamps to make a voluntary monetary donation to the Recreational License Donation Fund at the time of purchase. The donation opportunity must be made available only to a person purchasing directly through the electronic system and not through an authorized vendor. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2018, and terminates upon the taking effect of the termination provision of Chapter 424 of 2016 (which is set to terminate June 30, 2019).**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill is not expected to materially affect State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law/Background:

Recreational License Donation Fund

The Recreational License Donation Fund was created under Chapter 424 of 2016, as part of a recreational license donation program, to provide recreational hunting and fishing

opportunities for Gold Star recipients, disabled veterans, disabled members of the U.S. Armed Forces, and permanently disabled persons who require the use of a wheelchair. The fund consists of revenue collected by DNR for the purchase and donation of recreational hunting or fishing licenses or stamps and the fund may be used only for donated recreational hunting or fishing licenses or stamps for use by Gold Star recipients, disabled veterans, disabled members of the U.S. Armed Forces, or permanently disabled persons who require the use of a wheelchair. Chapter 424 terminates June 30, 2019.

The recreational license donation program is currently administered manually, through donation and application forms found on DNR's website, and there has been limited activity under the program to date.

DNR Licensing

DNR is authorized in statute to develop and implement an electronic system for the sale and issuance of licenses, permits, and registrations and its current electronic licensing system is called COMPASS, offering licenses, permits, and registrations for hunting, fishing, vessels, and off-road vehicles.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 22, 2018
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