

Department of Fiscal Services
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 431 (Senator Stoltzfus)

Economic and Environmental Affairs

Referred to Environmental Matters

Tidal Fish License - Seniors - Exemption from Waiting List

This amended bill exempts individuals from the tidal fish license waiting list requirement if they are over the age of 65 and previously held a tidal fish license for at least five years. Any such individual may not receive authorization to catch striped bass for sale or transfer the license to any other person.

The bill is effective July 1, 1997 and sunsets June 30, 2000.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Potential special fund revenue increase of \$950 to \$6,200. Expenditures would not be affected.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Potential minimal impact on small businesses as discussed below.

Fiscal Analysis

State Effect: There are currently 48 individuals over 65 on the tidal fish license waiting list; 20 of these are on the primary waiting list, meaning that they could have held a license previously. If all 20 individuals are eligible to purchase a tidal fishing license under this bill, special fund revenues would increase \$950 to \$6,200 depending upon the type of license purchased. Any additional workload caused by this legislation could be absorbed within existing resources.

Small Business Effect: This bill would directly impact those 20 individuals who could be eligible for a license; these individuals could then engage in commercial activity, presumably as a small business. Businesses such as bait and tackle providers, fuel sellers,

and seafood wholesalers could also benefit from this increase in activity. However, existing license holders could be negatively impacted by increased competition for the same resource.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 7, 1997

nrd Revised - Senate Third Reader - March 17, 1997

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