

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 930 (Delegate Hutchins)

Environmental Matters

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**Clerks of Circuit Courts - Bait, Fishing, and Hunting Documents**

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This bill transfers all responsibilities in connection with the issuance of fishing, hunting, gunning rig, stationary blind, and blind site licenses; stamps; and permits from the clerks of the circuit court to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) or agents designated by the department. The bill also repeals the provisions of law pertaining to the selling of live bait in Montgomery, Frederick, and Washington counties.

This bill takes effect June 1, 1998, except for Section 2 (July 1, 1998), Section 3 (January 1, 1999) and Section 4 (April 1, 1999).

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Potential minimal increase in DNR special fund revenue. Administrative activities could be handled with the existing resources of DNR.

**Local Effect:** Minimal reductions in local revenues and corresponding expenditures.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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**Fiscal Analysis**

**State Effect:** DNR advises that all hunting and fishing documents, except those related to blind sites, are sold by the department at one of seven regional service centers or by agents of the department. The clerks of the circuit court sell only blind site licenses.

In 1997, 4,150 blind site licenses were sold by the clerks of the circuit court; these licenses would now be sold by the department. DNR special fund revenue would increase by \$4,150

as a result of the local circuit courts not retaining \$1 for each license sold. Any additional administrative duties associated with performing licensing tasks could be handled with DNR's existing resources.

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**Information Source(s):** Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts), Department of Natural Resources, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 10, 1998

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