

**Department of Legislative Services**  
 Maryland General Assembly

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**Revised**

House Bill 1034 (Delegate Weir)

Environmental Matters

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**Fishing - Pound Nets and Pound Net Stakes**

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This bill requires tidal fish licensees to maintain their pound net stakes in good condition and to promptly remove any stakes and nets that are in poor condition. The bill prohibits licensees from leaving any pound net or stake in the water for a period of 30 days following the discontinuance of fishing or in the month of January unless the licensee advises the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) that the net is being actively fished. The applicable penalty provision for violations, a fine of between \$200 and \$1,000, is expanded by providing that violators who are convicted twice within two years may have their striped bass authorization suspended the following year.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Potential minimal increase in general fund revenues due to the bill's penalty provision. No effect on expenditures. Enforcement activities associated with the bill could be handled with DNR's existing resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 9, 1998

lc Revised - House Third Reader - April 3, 1998

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