

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 690 (Delegate Edwards)

Environmental Matters

Hunting Accidents - Duty to Render Assistance - Reporting of Accidents

This bill provides that a person who carelessly or negligently shoots, wounds, or kills another person, or who, while engaged in hunting wildlife, witnesses an injury inflicted on another person by a weapon is required to (1) render all reasonable assistance to the person injured; and (2) arrange for the transportation of the person to a physician, surgeon, or hospital for medical treatment if the injured person requests medical treatment, or it is apparent that medical treatment is necessary. All persons involved in a "hunting accident" are required to exchange in writing their names, addresses, and hunting license numbers.

Any physician, hospital, or medical facility that treats a person for a hunting accident, or law enforcement agent who investigates a hunting accident, is required to notify the Natural Resources Police as soon as practical. To the extent the information is available, the report should include the person's name and address, a description of the injury, and the type of hunting accident.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill would not materially alter State operations or finances. Any additional administrative cost associated with the bill could be handled with the Department of Natural Resources' existing resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Fiscal Analysis

Background: The Natural Resources Police investigate approximately 30 hunting-related firearms and tree stand accidents each year.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 1, 1999
dmm/jr

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