

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

Senate Bill 372 (Senator Stoltzfus)

Economic and Environmental Affairs

Natural Resources - Fishing Guide Permit

This bill requires persons to obtain a permit from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) before providing services as a fishing guide for direct or indirect compensation. Applicants for a fishing guide permit must (1) obtain appropriate federal licenses to operate a vessel carrying passengers for hire; (2) provide evidence that the applicant has completed a boating safety course and first aid course; (3) hold a valid sport fishing license; and (4) pay a \$25 application fee. The bill also prohibits a fishing guide permit holder from (1) guiding an individual who does not possess a valid sport fishing license; (2) guiding more than two individuals at once during a fishing guide session; and (3) catching, possessing, or retaining fish while providing services as a fishing guide.

This bill takes effect June 1, 1999.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Special fund revenue increase of \$5,000 in FY 2000. Future year estimates reflect a constant number of fishing guide permits. No effect on expenditures.

(in dollars)	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004
SF Revenues	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
SF Expenditures	0	0	0	0	0
Net Effect	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000

Note: () = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate effect

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Fiscal Analysis

State Effect: The bill establishes a \$25 fee for fishing guide permits. DNR estimates that approximately 200 individuals annually will apply for or renew fishing guide permits. As a result, special fund revenue would increase by approximately \$5,000 annually beginning in fiscal 2000. All fees will be paid into the Fisheries Research and Development Fund.

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

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 1, 1999

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