

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE  
Revised

House Bill 1075 (Delegate Guns)

Environmental Matters

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Natural Resources - Fishing Guide and Tidal Fish Licenses

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This emergency bill requires a person to obtain a license from the Department of Natural Resources before providing services as a freshwater fishing guide for compensation to a person fishing in nontidal freshwater for game and freshwater fish. Applicants for a freshwater fishing guide license are required to submit an application, pay a specified fee, and possess any necessary fishing licenses. The department is authorized to issue a freshwater fish guide license beginning January 1, 2000 which shall be valid for not more than one year. The department is required to adopt regulations to implement the requirements of issuing freshwater fishing guide licenses.

The department is also authorized to (1) establish by regulation first aid and safety requirements with which all licensed fishing guides must comply; and (2) suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue a license for failure to comply with the terms of a license.

Freshwater fishing guide licenses are not valid in tidal waters.

The bill also provides that an authorized representative of a tidal fish licensee may authorize the transfer of a tidal fish license or authorization upon the death of the licensee. This provision is retroactive to affect licenses or authorization in effect as of March 1, 1999 and sunsets December 31, 1999.

Section 1 of the bill which applies to fishing guide licenses takes effect July 1, 1999.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** Annual special fund revenue increase of approximately \$2,300 beginning in FY 2000. No effect on expenditures.

(in dollars)	FY 2000	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004
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SF Revenues	\$2,300	\$2,300	\$2,300	\$2,300	\$2,300
SF Expenditures	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Effect	\$2,300	\$2,300	\$2,300	\$2,300	\$2,300

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

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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## Fiscal Analysis

**State Effect:** The bill establishes fishing guide application fees of \$20 for residents and \$50 for nonresidents. The Department of Natural Resources estimates that the bill will result in approximately 100 fishing guide licenses being processed annually and that approximately 10% of the licenses will be issued to nonresidents. Accordingly, resident licenses would generate \$1,800 in special fund revenue and nonresident licenses would generate \$500, for a total increase of \$2,300 annually. All license revenue is paid into the Fisheries Management and Protection Fund.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 15, 1999  
mld/jr Revised - House Third Reader - April 1, 1999  
Revised - Enrolled Bill - May 6, 1999

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