

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
1999 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1186 (Delegates Guns and Weir)

Environmental Matters

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Natural Resources - Fishing and Hunting - Issuance of Licenses

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This bill transfers all responsibility for the issuance of specified hunting and fishing licenses from the clerks of the circuit courts to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) or its designated agents. The department is prohibited from delegating the authority to issue a fishing or hunting license to a clerk of a circuit court.

This bill takes effect July 1, 1999.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** Minimal special fund revenue increase beginning in FY 2000. Enforcement would continue with DNR's existing resources.

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

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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Fiscal Analysis

**State Effect:** Currently, clerks of the circuit courts only issue blind site licenses. In 1997, 4,150 blind site licenses at a cost of \$11 each were purchased through the clerks. Under current law, a clerk of a circuit court keeps \$1 from each license sold; thus the revenue collected by DNR from blind site licenses in 1997 was \$41,500. This bill would transfer the responsibility of issuing licenses from the clerks to DNR. This would result in all revenues collected from blind site licenses going to DNR, an increase of approximately \$4,150

annually.

**Local Effect:** The clerks of the circuit courts will lose \$4,150 in revenue from the issuing of licenses which would be offset by a reduction in expenditures associated with issuing licenses.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 22, 1999  
dmm/jr

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