

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 1130 (Delegate Dewberry)  
Environmental Matters

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Natural Resources - Freshwater Fishing Guides

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This bill establishes an exemption from obtaining a freshwater fishing guide license if a person is providing fishing guide services from the shoreline of specified nontidal freshwater or specified areas of tidal water or if the person is providing fishing guide services standing on foot in those areas. The bill also modifies one of the areas of tidal waters where a freshwater fishing guide license is valid.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2001.

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** Potential minimal decrease in special fund revenues beginning in FY 2001 related to the bill's exemption. Although the number of guides that would be exempt from obtaining a license is unknown, it is not anticipated to be significant. The provision modifying the area of tidal waters where a license is valid is not anticipated to affect the number of licenses issued.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** Chapter 286 of 1999 authorized the Department of Natural Resources to issue a license to individuals to provide services as a fishing guide in nontidal freshwater. The fee for obtaining a nontidal freshwater fishing guide license is \$20 for residents and

\$50 for nonresidents. Chapter 688 of 2000 established a new category of freshwater fishing guide license that allows a licensee to operate in nontidal freshwater *and* specified tidal water areas. The fee for the new category of license is \$50 for residents and \$100 for nonresidents.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

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

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader – March 2, 2001  
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