

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2001 Session

FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 968 (Delegate Redmer, *et al.*)

Environmental Matters

Economic and Environmental Affairs

---

Natural Resources - Angler's License Requirements - Exemptions

---

This bill provides an exemption from obtaining an angler's license for a caregiver, family member, or designee of a mental health care facility or private group home of a patient who is under treatment by a State-approved mental health facility under specified conditions. The bill also repeals the certification requirement under the existing exemption provision for patients under treatment by a State-approved mental health facility and individuals who attend or reside in a State-approved retardation facility.

---

Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** Minimal decrease in special fund revenues (approximately \$500 annually). The Department of Natural Resources reports that it receives approximately ten requests each year for exemptions for fewer than 50 patients. The license fee for a Maryland resident is \$10. It is assumed that the bill would provide an exemption for one caregiver, family member, or designee for each exempted patient, and that each individual exempted pursuant to the bill would be a Maryland resident.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

---

Analysis

**Current Law:** Any person 16 years or older shall secure an angler's license to fish in the nontidal waters of the State. Nontidal license fees are paid into the Fisheries Management and Protection Fund. A license is not required for: (1) the owner or tenant

of land bordering on nontidal water, his spouse and children, or the spouse of any child who resides on the land with the owner or tenant when fishing in nontidal water adjoining the land; (2) any convalescent patient of a veteran's hospital hospitalized for a service connected disability who fishes in nontidal waters under specified conditions; (3) any group of disabled or convalescent patients organized and under the care and supervision of the American Red Cross under specified conditions; (4) any resident serving in the armed forces of United States under specified conditions; (5) any patient who is under treatment by a State-approved mental health facility, and any individual who attends or resides in a State-approved retardation facility, provided the administrator of the facility certifies that the patient or individual is engaged in an approved therapeutic program which would involve a fishing activity; (6) a person who fishes in nontidal waters of the State on free fishing days as designated by DNR; or (7) a person holding a current resident consolidated senior sport fishing license.

---

### **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 1, 2001  
jm/cer

---

Analysis by: Lesley Frymier

Direct Inquiries to:  
John Rixey, Coordinating Analyst  
(410) 946-5510  
(301) 970-5510