

Fiscal Estimate - 2015 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 15-3730/1	Introduction Number AB-0544	
Description Requiring the Department of Natural Resources to establish a special wild turkey hunting program for certain disabled veterans		
Fiscal Effect State: <input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 30%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs </div> </div> Local: <input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 30%;"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory </div> <div style="width: 30%;"> 5. Types of Local Government Units Affected <input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities <input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> 0 <input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts </div> </div>		
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS		
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date
DNR/ Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794	Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794	11/30/2015

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DNR 11/30/2015

LRB Number	15-3730/1	Introduction Number	AB-0544	Estimate Type	Original
Description Requiring the Department of Natural Resources to establish a special wild turkey hunting program for certain disabled veterans					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The bill requires the Department to administer a turkey hunting program for disabled veterans, which includes establishing a special turkey hunting event during which only disabled veterans are allowed to participate and provides instruction to disabled veterans who are learning to hunt wild turkey. In addition, the bill provides license fee exemptions for disabled veterans who participate in the special turkey hunting event.

I. Bureau of Customer and Outreach Services

A. Costs

This bill exempts disabled veterans participating in this special event from the requirement to purchase and hold a valid a turkey hunting license, stamp and permit. The department's costs related to paying transaction fees associated with the sale of the license, stamp and permit would decrease for each disabled veteran participant who would have otherwise purchased these items. If the disabled veteran opted to purchase a license, stamp and permit in one transaction, the cost to the department would be \$1.15 (\$0.50 transaction fee to agent + 0.65 transaction fee paid to licensing system vendor). If the disabled veteran opted to purchase all three items individually in three separate transactions, the cost to the department would be \$3.45 (\$1.15 * 3) in transaction costs.

The department cannot determine the number of participants in this special event nor can we determine those who would opt to purchase a turkey license, stamp and permit. As such, the total transaction costs saved are indeterminate.

B. Revenue

This bill exempts disabled veteran participants from the requirement to purchase and hold a valid a turkey hunting license, stamp and permit in order to participate in the special wild turkey hunting event. Disabled veterans are not excluded from participating, however, if they hold turkey license, stamp and permit. Revenue would be reduced to the extent that disabled veteran hunters participating in the special event would choose not to purchase a turkey license, stamp and permit. Turkey stamp fees are used to fund projects benefitting turkeys and turkey hunting.

The revenue reduction per hunter would be \$22.45 (\$14.50 license + \$5.10 stamp + \$2.85 permit application) per year for each hunter that would have otherwise purchased a turkey license, stamp, and applied for a spring turkey permit. Or \$29.45 (\$14.50 license +\$5.10 stamp + \$9.85 OTC permit) per hunter that would have otherwise purchased a turkey license, stamp, and purchased a leftover permit over the counter after the drawing. Assuming 50% of those would choose to purchase the otherwise required approval, stamp and permit by entering the permit drawing, the average reduction in revenue per disabled veteran hunter would be \$25.95 per hunter $[(\$22.45 + \$29.45)/2]$.

Annual resident spring turkey hunting license: \$14.50 (\$12.25 turkey license fee + \$2 wildlife damage surcharge +\$0.25 issuing fee paid to dept.)

Turkey stamp: \$5.10 (\$5.00 stamp fee + \$0.10 issuing fee paid to dept.)

Turkey permit purchased OTC: \$9.85 (\$9.75 permit fee + \$0.10 issuing fee paid to dept.)

Turkey permit application: \$2.85 (\$2.75 turkey permit application fee +0.10 issuing fee paid to dept.)

In addition, the department would lose Federal Pittman-Robertson (PR) funding for each paid hunter if the participants choose not to purchase a hunting approval because of the exemption. Based on the last PR certification and apportionment, PR funding would be reduced by \$18.89 for each hunter who, since they were exempt from the turkey hunting license requirement, did not purchase a hunting license at all during that license year.

In total, the department would lose an estimated \$44.84 (\$25.95 + 18.89) in annual revenue for each disabled veteran hunter who participated in this special event and who would have otherwise opted to

purchase a turkey hunting license, stamp and permit in order to hunt turkeys in Wisconsin and who did not purchase any hunting approval in that license year. The department cannot estimate the number of participants in this special event or their potential to purchase other hunting approvals; therefore, the total revenue loss is indeterminate.

II. Bureau of Law Enforcement - Shooting Sports/Learn-to-Hunt Coordination

The bill does not clearly delineate "program administration" by DNR, nor can the Department estimate the number of participants. Therefore, the costs to administer this program are indeterminate. As an illustrative example, the costs associated with a 1.5 day hunting event administered by DNR LTE mentors, assuming participation by 10 hunters and the rates enumerated below, are estimated to be \$4,000.

10 mentors @15 hours each = 150 hours @ \$20 = \$3,000

10 mentors drive 100 miles each at \$.50/mile = \$500

Expenses, equipment and food = \$500

Additional indeterminate costs would be associated with providing turkey hunting instruction, as well as hiring and screening the required mentors.

The bill directs the Department to establish a new, limited wild turkey season, which would be accomplished via administrative rule. Since this proposal does not include non-statutory emergency rule authority to establish the season, the normal rule promulgation process would need to be utilized. It is unknown if this rulemaking could be incorporated into another proposal, or if the rulemaking would require its own independent process. As such, the cost associated with rulemaking is indeterminate.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications