



## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

# FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 877

PRINTER'S NO. 853

PRIME SPONSOR: Pielli

### COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Fish Fund	\$0	See Fiscal Impact
Game Fund	\$0	See Fiscal Impact

**SUMMARY:** Amends Title 30 (Fish) and Title 34 (Game) to provide for fishing and or hunting license reciprocity for active-duty military members and disabled veterans.

**ANALYSIS:** The legislation provides that any person who possesses a valid active-duty military fishing or hunting license or a disabled veteran fishing or hunting license issued in another state may fish or hunt in the Commonwealth, if that state has entered into a reciprocal agreement with Pennsylvania.

The bill tasks the Attorney General with negotiating and entering into reciprocal agreements with other states for active-duty military and disabled veteran fishing and hunting licenses and granting recognition of those licenses issued by another state where appropriate.

The bill further requires the Attorney General to report to the General Assembly within 180 days of the effective date of the legislation and annually thereafter regarding any agreements that have been reached.

This legislation would take effect in 60 days.

### FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact of this legislation is expected to be relatively small. According to the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and the US Department of Defense, Pennsylvania has 145,455 disabled veterans and 2,508 active military personnel, as of March 2023. Together, these individuals represent 1.14% of the Pennsylvania population.

Fish Fund revenues attributable to non-resident licenses in 2021/22 were \$2,763,793 and Game Fund non-resident revenues were \$7,093,223.

If the share of non-resident fishing and hunting licenses purchased by disabled veterans or active military personnel from other states is akin the 1.14% share that these groups comprise of Pennsylvania's population as a whole, the impact to the Fish Fund could be \$31,500 and the impact to the Game Fund could be \$81,000, assuming full reciprocity with other states and that the nonresident license holders also hold licenses in another state.

The number of states that would enter into reciprocity agreements is unknown, so the end utilization of by out-of-state disabled veterans or active military personnel is indeterminate. For each 10% of the potentially eligible out-of-state population that can take advantage of this benefit, the reduced revenue to the Fish Fund would be approximately \$3,150, and the reduced revenues to the Game Fund would be approximately \$8,100.

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**DATE:** May 23, 2023

*Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.*