

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. House Bill 544

PRINTER NO. 3213

AMOUNT

No Fiscal Impact

FUND

General Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

March 1, 2017

PRIME SPONSOR

Representative Moul

DESCRIPTION

House Bill 544 amends the Commonwealth's recreational use of land liability law, which protects landowners from liability if they open their land free of charge to recreational users, to clarify and expand its protections to land owners.

This legislation amends the definitions of:

- "Land" to include: amenities, boating access and launch ramps, bridges, fishing piers, boat docks, ramps, paths, paved and unpaved trails, hunting blinds, and areas providing access to or parking for access ramps, trails or piers for use by recreational users with disabilities;
- "Recreational purpose" to mean any activity undertaken or viewed for exercise, sport, education, recreation, relaxation or pleasure, and include new activities of snowmobiling and all-terrain vehicle and motorcycle riding;
- "Charge" to not include in-kind contributions or contributions made to the owner voluntarily for conservation purposes; and
- "Recreational user" to mean a person who enters or uses land for recreational purposes.

House Bill 544 clarifies the limited liability of land owners to include recreational users, rather than "persons."

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to the Commonwealth.