

# SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

**BILL NO.** House Bill 617

**PRINTER NO.** 612

**AMOUNT**

No Fiscal Impact  
\$29,000 Revenue Loss

**FUND**

General Fund  
Game Fund

**DATE INTRODUCED**

February 28, 2019

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Representative Gillespie

**DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL**

House Bill 617 amends Title 34 (Game and Wildlife Code) to provide for a discounted hunting license for volunteer Hunter Trapper Education (HTE) instructors.

House Bill 617 creates a volunteer instructor license for residents of the Commonwealth who are certified by the Game Commission (commission) as qualified to teach any of the hunter or trapper education curriculum offered by the commission. This shall not apply to full-time employees of the commission.

The volunteer instructor license shall cost \$1 plus issuing agents fee, which is currently \$1. Approximately 1,800 HTE instructors conduct hunter and trapper education classes annually to more than 41,000 students.

This legislation would take effect in 60 days.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Currently there are approximately 1,800 HTE instructors comprised of 1,090 adult resident license holders and 710 senior resident annual license holders. The commission estimates that enactment of this legislation could result in the loss of approximately \$29,000 to the Game Fund per year by heavily discounting the cost of hunting licenses that are otherwise sold to volunteer instructors at full price. According to the Governor’s Executive Budget, the Game Fund is estimated to collect \$151 million of revenue in Fiscal Year 2020-21.

<b>Type of General Hunting Licenses</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Resident (annual)	17-64	\$20.90
Senior Resident (annual)	65 and up	\$13.90
Senior Resident <b>(lifetime)</b>	65 and up	\$51.90
Senior Resident Combination <b>(lifetime)</b>	65 and up	\$101.90