

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE  
FISCAL NOTE**

**BILL NO.** Senate 147

**PRINTER NO.** 195

**AMOUNT**

Additional License Revenue

**FUND**

Game Fund

**DATE INTRODUCED**

February 1, 2019

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Senator Laughlin

**DESCRIPTION**

Senate Bill 147 amends Title 34 (Game) to provide for hunting on Sunday and increased penalties for violations.

This legislation provides for the Game Commission (commission) to promulgate regulation to allow for hunting on Sunday.

The bill also requires the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to prepare a financial analysis of the commission and submit to the General Assembly within 180 days of the effective date of this legislation.

Senate Bill 147 also increases penalties for a hunter who has entered and remained on lands that are posted or has been personally contacted by the owner to not enter or leave. A person who violates a posting commits an offense of the third degree. A person who violated a personal communication commits a misdemeanor. A second offense of either within a seven-year period commits a misdemeanor and forfeits the privilege to hunt or take game anywhere in the Commonwealth for one year.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

In 2010, the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee produced a report that analyzed the economic impact of allowing Sunday hunting. The report concluded that allowing hunting to occur on Sunday's would positively contribute to the Commonwealth's gross state product. While the potential amount of additional revenue that could be generated is difficult to predict, it can be assumed that the expansion of hunting to Sundays will result in additional purchases of hunting equipment which will increase collections of Sales and Use Tax. In addition, hotel lodging tax should also increase due to additional hotel room nights being utilized.

The Game Commission also anticipates that Sunday hunting will result in additional licenses being sold, which will result in additional revenue to the Game Fund.

# SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

		License Fee	Revenue increase per additional 1000 licenses sold
<b>Hunting</b>	Resident	\$19	\$19,000
	Non-resident	\$100	\$100,000
<b>Archery</b>	Resident	\$15	\$15,000
	Non-resident	\$25	\$25,000
<b>Antlerless deer</b>	Resident	\$5	\$5,000
	Non-resident	\$25	\$25,000

The Legislative Budget and Finance Committee is able to perform the analysis required in SB 147 within its current appropriation level. Taking on this project may impact its ability to take on additional projects.