

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 241

PRINTER NO. 200

AMOUNT

See Fiscal Impact

FUND

Fish Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

February 16, 2021

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Brewster

DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL

Senate Bill 241 Amends Title 30 (Fish) to create a specific license exemption for participants in organized therapeutic fishing activities.

Currently, the Fish and Boat Commission (commission) has the authority to award free license exemptions to participants for special activities; however, no specific free exemption is given out for therapeutic activities. Senate Bill 241 provides for an exemption from fishing license requirements for therapeutic recreation programs, including the Wounded Warriors Project and other similar fishing event programs.

This act shall take effect in 60 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

During Fiscal Year 2018-19 (the most recent full fiscal year before the COVID-19 pandemic), the Fish and Boat Commission received \$25.3 million from license and fee revenue. According to the Fish and Boat Commission, enactment of this legislation will have a minimal fiscal impact on the Fish Fund.

The commission’s Bureau of Outreach, Education and Marketing reported that in 2019, license exemptions were provided for 53 different organizations with 89 specific dates, and 13 of those requests covered extended periods of time. The following table demonstrates the cost of certain fishing licenses. For each 100 resident annual license exemptions granted for therapeutic activities, the Fish Fund will lose \$2,290 of revenue. For each 100 senior resident or 1-day resident license exemptions granted, the Fish Fund will lose \$1,190. For each 100 3-day tourist license exemptions, the Fish Fund will lose \$2,690.

Type of Fishing License	Age	Cost
Resident (annual)	16-64	\$22.90
Senior Resident (annual)	65 and up	\$11.90
1-day Resident	16 and up	\$11.90
Non-Resident (annual)	16 and up	\$52.90
3-day Tourist	16 and up	\$26.90