

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 79TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 4, 2005

TO: Honorable Harvey Hilderbran, Chair, House Committee on Culture, Recreation, & Tourism

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Deputy Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2026 by Hilderbran (Relating to the taking and possession of certain wildlife or eggs, including requirements related to taxidermy and tanning and to harmful aquatic plants; imposing a penalty.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

<p>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</p>
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The bill alters various sections of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code, including the disposition of confiscated game, separate offenses, non-resident license requirements, license privileges, game breeder's license, alligators, provisions generally applicable to hunting, and licenses and regulations for fur-bearing animals. The bill would authorize the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) to sell confiscated game, would prohibit computer-assisted remote hunting, and would require persons to dispose of harmful aquatic plants after leaving public or private bodies of water. The bill specifically removes the requirement for a separate alligator hunting license for both residents and non-residents.

According to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the repeal of this requirement will result in a net revenue loss of \$30,858 per fiscal year to the General Revenue-Dedicated Game, Fish and Water Safety Account No. 9. Annual revenues to the General Revenue-Dedicated Game, Fish and Water Safety Account No. 9 from hunting and fishing licenses exceed \$79.0 million, and as such, the anticipated revenue loss will not have a significant fiscal impact.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 802 Parks and Wildlife Department

LBB Staff: JOB, WK, ZS, TB