

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 30, 2015

TO: Honorable Ryan Guillen, Chair, House Committee on Culture, Recreation & Tourism

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB3649 by Smith (Relating to a lifetime hunting license for certain nonresidents; authorizing a fee.), **As Introduced**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB3649, As Introduced: an impact of \$0 through the biennium ending August 31, 2017.

The bill would make no appropriation but could provide the legal basis for an appropriation of funds to implement the provisions of the bill.

General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds
2016	\$0
2017	\$0
2018	\$0
2019	\$0
2020	\$0

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Revenue Gain from <i>Lifetime Lic Endow Acct</i> 544	Probable Revenue (Loss) from <i>Game,Fish,Water Safety Ac</i> 9
2016	\$2,881,000	(\$907,515)
2017	\$0	(\$907,515)
2018	\$0	(\$907,515)
2019	\$0	(\$907,515)
2020	\$0	(\$907,515)

Fiscal Analysis

The bill would amend portions of the Parks and Wildlife Code to allow a non-resident landowner to purchase a lifetime hunting license if the landowner has owned property in Texas for at least three years. Lifetime hunting licenses are currently only available to Texas residents.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2015.

Methodology

This analysis was provided by the Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) and is based on the current costs of a lifetime hunting license (one-time fee of \$1,000) and a non-resident hunting license (\$315 per year). It is also based on information provided by TPWD estimating that 11.6 percent of non-resident hunters own land in Texas. For this analysis, the percentage provided by TPWD was applied to the reported number of non-resident general hunting licenses issued in 2014 (24,834 licenses) to estimate that 2,881 non-resident hunters owned property in Texas in 2014.

Currently, fees for lifetime hunting licenses are deposited to the credit of the Lifetime License Endowment Account No. 544 and annual hunting license fees are deposited to the credit of the Game, Fish, and Water Safety Account No. 9.

The table above reflects a scenario of a one-time revenue gain to the Lifetime License Endowment Account No. 544 based on an assumption that all non-resident property owners who hunt would purchase a lifetime hunting license in fiscal year 2016 instead of paying approximately one-third of the cost each year. The revenue gain from 2,881 estimated non-resident landowner hunters purchasing a lifetime hunting license would total \$2,881,000. This would also result in a corresponding decrease of \$907,515 in revenue deposited to the Game, Fish, and Water Safety Account No. 9 under current law. This analysis assumes the decrease to the Game, Fish, and Water Safety Account No. 9 would continue in each subsequent year, and would total \$4,537,575 from 2016 to 2020.

Based on information provided by TPWD, implementing the provisions of the bill would result in minimal administrative costs which are not reflected in the table above.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 304 Comptroller of Public Accounts, 802 Parks and Wildlife Department
LBB Staff: UP, SZ, MWI