

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**March 24, 2017**

**TO:** Honorable Charles Perry, Chair, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Water & Rural Affairs

**FROM:** Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: SB573** by Estes (Relating to the disposition of proceeds from the sale of freshwater fishing stamps issued by the Parks and Wildlife Department.), **As Introduced**

<p><b>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b></p>
--

The bill would amend a portion of the Parks and Wildlife Code relating to the allowable uses of revenues collected from the sale of freshwater fishing stamps that are deposited to the General Revenue-Dedicated Game, Fish, and Water Safety Account No. 9. Freshwater fishing stamps are required in addition to a fishing license for recreational fishing in fresh water and the fee is set by statute at \$5. Under current law, these revenues may only be used for the repair, maintenance, renovation, or replacement of freshwater fish hatcheries, or to purchase game fish to stock public waters in the state. The bill would expand the allowable uses to include construction of new hatcheries, and capital improvements or construction of facilities supporting management and research related to freshwater fisheries. The bill would also authorize the use of these revenues for restoration, enhancement, management, and shore-based development projects related to freshwater fisheries. The bill would allow up to 20 percent of freshwater fishing stamp revenue be used for administration and operating expenses.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2017.

**Local Government Impact**

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 802 Parks and Wildlife Department

**LBB Staff:** UP, SZ, MWI