

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 1050S.01I
Bill No.: SB 256
Subject: Department of Conservation; Fishing and Hunting; Veterans
Type: Original
Date: February 24, 2023

Bill Summary: This proposal allows certain veterans to be issued hunting and fishing permits free of charge.

FISCAL SUMMARY

| ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| FUND AFFECTED | FY 2024 | FY 2025 | FY 2026 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

| ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS | | | |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| FUND AFFECTED | FY 2024 | FY 2025 | FY 2026 |
| Conservation Commission Fund (0609) | (\$2,760,800) | (\$3,312,960) | (\$3,312,960) |
| | | | |
| Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other State Funds</u> | (\$2,760,800) | (\$3,312,960) | (\$3,312,960) |

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

| ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS | | | |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| FUND AFFECTED | FY 2024 | FY 2025 | FY 2026 |
| Federal Funds | \$0 or (Unknown) | \$0 or (Unknown) | \$0 or (Unknown) |
| Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds | \$0 or (Unknown) | \$0 or (Unknown) | \$0 or (Unknown) |

| ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE) | | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| FUND AFFECTED | FY 2024 | FY 2025 | FY 2026 |
| | | | |
| Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE | 0 | 0 | 0 |

- Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.
- Estimated Net Effect (savings or increased revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

| ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| FUND AFFECTED | FY 2024 | FY 2025 | FY 2026 |
| Local Government | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC)** assume the following regarding this proposal:

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs there are 425,000 veterans living in Missouri. Approximately 44% of those are 65 or older and would presumably be already exempt from the normal fishing or small game hunting permit requirement because of their age.

That would leave around 238,000 veterans who may benefit from a small game and fishing permit exemption. MDC assumes that veterans would be likely to either hunt or fish in a similar percentage to the general population; therefore, MDC can estimate that approximately 71,400 (30%) would take advantage of firearm deer hunting permits, 28,560 (12%) spring turkey hunting permit, 28,560 (12%) archery hunting permit, 47,600 (20%) fishing permit and 35,700 (15%) small game hunting permit exemption.

| | |
|---|------------------|
| • 47,600 fishing permits at \$12 = | \$571,200 |
| • 35,700 hunting permits at \$10 = | \$357,000 |
| • 71,400 deer hunting permit at \$19 = | \$1,356,600 |
| • 28,560 turkey hunting permit at \$17 = | \$485,520 |
| • 28,560 archery hunting permit at \$19 = | <u>\$542,640</u> |
| TOTAL | \$3,312,960 |

Total negative impact to the Department in permit revenue - \$3,312,960, plus loss of federal reimbursements estimated at \$2 million for a conservative negative fiscal impact of approximately \$5.3 million. MDC receives reimbursement from the federal government for permit sales made in the state. The free permits would not be counted; therefore, decreasing the number of permits sold.

Oversight does not have information to the contrary and therefore, Oversight will reflect the estimates as provided by MDC. Oversight will range the fiscal impact of the potential loss of federal funds from \$0 (does not affect federal funding) to an “Unknown” loss (does affect federal funding).

Officials from the **Missouri Veterans Commission** assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organization. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for the Commission.

| <u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u> | FY 2024 (10 Mo.) | FY 2025 | FY 2026 |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| CONSERVATION COMMISSION FUND | | | |
| <u>Loss – MDC – providing veterans permits free of charge for life</u> | <u>(\$2,760,800)</u> | <u>(\$3,312,960)</u> | <u>(\$3,312,960)</u> |
| ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON CONSERVATION COMMISSION FUND (0609) | <u>(\$2,760,800)</u> | <u>(\$3,312,960)</u> | <u>(\$3,312,960)</u> |
| FEDERAL FUNDS | | | |
| <u>Loss – MDC – potential loss of federal reimbursements</u> | <u>\$0 to (Unknown)</u> | <u>\$0 to (Unknown)</u> | <u>\$0 to (Unknown)</u> |
| ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS | <u>\$0 to (Unknown)</u> | <u>\$0 to (Unknown)</u> | <u>\$0 to (Unknown)</u> |

| <u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u> | FY 2024 (10 Mo.) | FY 2025 | FY 2026 |
|---|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> |

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

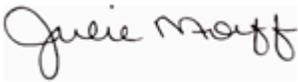
Under this act, any veteran, who was discharged or released from service under conditions other than dishonorable, of any branch of the Armed Forces of the United States, including the National Guard or any reserve component of the Armed Forces, shall be eligible to receive hunting and fishing permits free of charge for life. The Conservation Commission shall issue

each permit upon request, unless the individual requesting a permit is otherwise prohibited from possessing a hunting or fishing permit by statute, rule, or regulation.

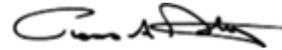
This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Missouri Department of Conservation
Missouri Veterans Commission



Julie Morff
Director
February 24, 2023



Ross Strobe
Assistant Director
February 24, 2023