

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6367**

**BILL NUMBER: SB 163**

**DATE PREPARED:** Dec 15, 2000

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** County Option Surcharges on Department of Natural Resources Fees.

**FISCAL ANALYST:** Bernadette Bartlett

**PHONE NUMBER:** 232-9586

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**  **GENERAL**  
 **DEDICATED**  
 **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill allows a county containing all or part of an Indiana state park, state forest, game preserve, recreation area, or reservoir to impose a surcharge on fees collected within the state property. The surcharge is 5% of the gross income derived from the fees. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) must collect, report, and pay the surcharge to the county treasurer. The surcharge must be used to assist the local unit of government that provides police protection, fire protection, emergency medical services, or road repairs to the state property. The United States Army Corps of Engineers must approve a surcharge imposed on fees collected within the state property operated by the Department under a lease arrangement with the United States Army Corps of Engineers before the Department collects the surcharge.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2001.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** The DNR collects approximately \$14 M annually in fees (as defined in the proposal). If all DNR properties were subject to the surcharge, the Department would collect an additional \$700,000, or 5% of the \$14 M, to distribute to local units. The 5% increase could reduce current fees collected by the Department if customers are unwilling or unhappy with the increase. The Department would also report and pay the surcharge to the county treasurer. This provision will increase administrative expenditures for the Department by an indeterminable amount. (Additional information will be provided when it becomes available.)

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** Counties containing DNR properties would be eligible to assess a 5% surcharge on fees collected by the DNR. If all DNR properties were subject to the surcharge, local units would receive an estimated \$700,000 annually, assuming current fee collection rates. The surcharge must be used to assist the local unit of government that provides police protection, fire protection, emergency

medical services, or road repairs to the park.

**State Agencies Affected:** Department of Natural Resources

**Local Agencies Affected:** Local units of government that provide police protection, fire protection, emergency medical services, or road repairs to DNR properties.

**Information Sources:** Mickey James, Controller's Office, DNR.