

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6386**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1244

**NOTE PREPARED:** Feb 12, 2009

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Lifetime Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping Licenses.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Herrell

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** CR Adopted - 1<sup>st</sup> House

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**  GENERAL  
 DEDICATED  
 FEDERAL

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill requires the director of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to make available to residents lifetime hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2009.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** The DNR will experience an increase in administrative expenses associated with re-establishing the lifetime licenses; however, the fee established for the license could be used to pay for any additional administrative expense.

**Explanation of State Revenues:** Before July 1, 2005, the DNR could issue lifetime licenses. However, P.L. 225-2005 stipulated that provisions pertaining to the lifetime licenses applied only prior to July 1, 2005. This proposal re-establishes the license. Statistics pertaining to the revenue generated when the license was last available are listed below.

The fee for a comprehensive lifetime hunting and fishing license prior to July 2005 was \$1,154. IC 14-22-12-7 provided that all money received for this license must be deposited in the Lifetime License Trust Fund (LLTF). IC 14-22-4-6 provides that all accumulated earnings in the LLTF plus 2.5% of the money in the fund must be transferred to the Fish and Wildlife Fund (FWF) to maintain the automated point-of-sale licensing system and to pay the operational expenses of the Divisions of Fish and Wildlife and Law Enforcement.

Based on the sale of one lifetime license at \$1,154, the Divisions of Law Enforcement and Fish and Wildlife could over the lifetime of the license receive 2.5%, or approximately \$29, plus approximately \$11 in interest,

for a total of \$40. If an individual purchased from the DNR an annual license for hunting and fishing at \$20.75, turkey hunting at \$23, a game bird habitat stamp at \$6.75, a deer firearms license at \$24, and a deer muzzle loader license at \$24, the total license revenue collected, or \$98.50, was deposited in the FWF to finance the operations of the Divisions of Law Enforcement and Fish and Wildlife.

Lifetime hunting and fishing licenses and the LLTF were authorized in 1983. Prior to July 2005, the DNR sold over 42,000 lifetime licenses. During the final years of the issuance of the lifetime license, an estimated 600 licenses were sold annually.

The lifetime license fee is the annual license fee multiplied by specified constants or percentages. Use of a lifetime license beyond a certain number of years (depending upon the license) could result in less revenue generated relative to annual purchases. Use of a lifetime license for less than the multiplier could result in more revenue generated relative to an annual license.

As of December 10, 2008, the LLTF had a balance of \$896,290.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** DNR

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:** DNR

**Fiscal Analyst:** Bernadette Bartlett, 317-232-9586.