

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6643

BILL NUMBER: SB 386

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 8, 2010

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Fishing licenses for discharged veterans.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Breaux

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

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

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill allows a resident who has served during the preceding 24 months in federal active service outside the United States as a member of the armed forces to fish without a license.

Effective Date: July 1, 2010.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues: The DNR would potentially experience an annual decrease of \$15,867 in revenue from allowing veterans who had been deployed within the preceding 24 months outside of the U.S. to fish without a license. License fee revenue is deposited in the Fish and Wildlife Fund, which provides 100% of the funding for the DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife's operating budget and approximately half of the operating budget for the DNR Division of Law Enforcement.

Background. From November 2007 through November 2009, 1,230 members of the National Guard, Active Duty, or Reserves who had served outside of the U.S. had been discharged. These individuals would be eligible to fish without a license.

The projected 2010 population for Indiana for individuals 18-65 is 3,984,664. In 2008, 435,982 residents purchased a fishing license. Based on these figures, approximately 10.9% of Indiana residents will purchase a fishing license.

The cost for a fishing license is \$17. Of this total, \$0.75 is retained by the selling agent, leaving a net total

of \$16.25 per license sold. If 10.9% of the 1,230 eligible individuals, or 134, would have purchased a fishing license, but did not due to the exemption, the DNR would lose \$2,178 in state revenue each year, assuming that the number of eligible individuals and the cost of the license remain constant.

Indiana receives \$11.13 in federal reimbursement for each fishing license sold. (Indiana's 2009 Sport Fish apportionment was \$5,235,357 and was based on certification of 470,472 anglers.) If 1,230 individuals did not buy a fishing license due to the exemption, the DNR would lose \$13,690 in federal revenue each year.

Total state and federal revenue loss is estimated at \$15,867 per year.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: DNR.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Tom Applegate, Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs, 232-3910; DNR; U. S. Census 2010 Projections, <http://www.census.gov/population/projections/15PyrmdIN1.pdf> .

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