Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the Legislature. LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

		LAST UPDATED	
SPONSOR _	Sanchez/Pirtle	ORIGINAL DATE	2/20/23
_		BILL	
SHORT TIT	LE Game & Fish Outdoor Youth Program	ns NUMBER	Senate Bill 392
		ANALYST	Gaussoin

REVENUE* (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring	Fund
FY23	FY24	FY25	or Nonrecurring	Affected
	Indeterminate but likely minimally positive	Indeterminate but likely minimally positive	Recurring	Game Protection Fund

Parentheses () indicate revenue decreases.

Relates to Senate Bill 289

Sources of Information

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Game and Fish (DGF)

Economic Development Department (EDD)

No Response Received

Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Senate Bill 392

Senate Bill 392 (SB392) would require the director of the Department of Game and Fish to provide youth programs in each of the five state game districts and to allow for those making a purchase from the department to donate to youth programs by rounding their purchase off to the nearest dollar or by donating an amount of their choosing.

The effective date of this bill is July 1, 2023.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The Department of Game and Fish (DGF) already provides youth programs throughout the state funded from the game protection fund, which pays for general operations at the department. Because the donations to youth programs in SB392 would be deposited in the game protection

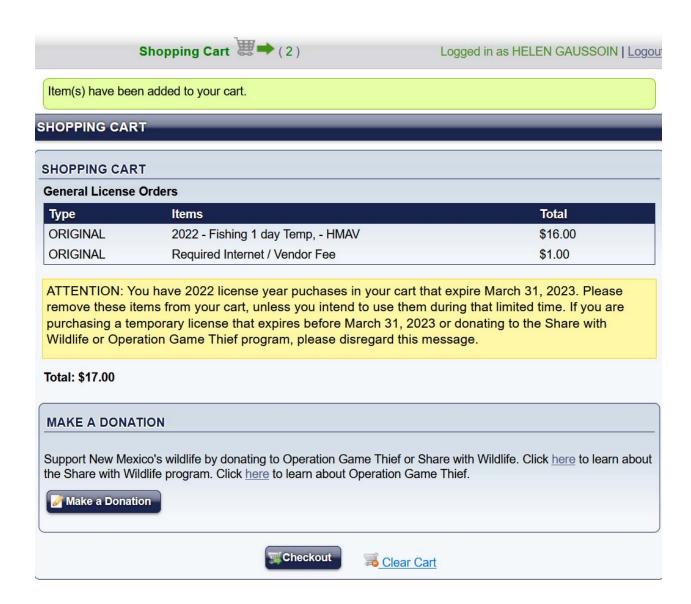
^{*}Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Senate Bill 392 – Page 2

fund, those donations would not necessarily increase spending on youth programs; they might merely supplant existing funding, freeing up revenue for other programs.

Further, the department already solicits donations during check-out of online purchases for the Share with Wildlife and Operation Game Thief programs, although donations to those programs go into specialty funds and not the game protection fund. Buyers can also donate during inperson purchases, although the check-out does not include any prompts.

While purchase-based donations might increase with the additional option of youth programs, it is as likely donors will merely redistribute their donations with the total remaining the same, generating no new revenue for the department.





DGF adds this additional point:

It should be noted that all the Department's licenses are currently full dollar amounts. Therefore, rounding up to the nearest full dollar amount would only work in instances where discounts (ex. military and veteran discounts) are applied. Allowing customers the opportunity to provide custom donation amounts may best serve the purposes of this bill.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

DGF currently offers a range of youth programs. From DGF:

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish currently administers educational and entertaining youth programs, open to all youth throughout the state in all five state game commission districts, with the following existing programs: Hunter Education Program, Bowhunter Education Program, Conservation Education Program, Aquatic Resources Education Program, Archery Education Program (National Archery in the Schools Program [NASP] and Scholastic 3-D Archery), Responsible Hunter and Camp Program, and the Off-Highway Vehicle Program.

The State Land Office, among other agencies, also offers outdoor education programs for youth, and the Economic Development Department manages a grant program intended to increase youth access to the outdoors.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

SB392 relates to SB289, which would require the Public Education Department to establish a public school outdoor and environmental education program.