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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 02/06/11

SPONSOR Dodge LAST UPDATED _____ HB 180

SHORT TITLE Military Discount for Game & Fish Licenses SB _____

ANALYST Hoffmann

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY11	FY12		
NFI	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY11	FY12	FY13		
\$0.0	\$7.0	\$7.0	Recurring	Game Protection Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Revenue Decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY11	FY12	FY13	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
Total	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Conflicts with Senate Bill 196, House Bill 149; Sections § 17-3-2 and § 17-3-13

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Game and Fish (DGF)

Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 180 would authorize the DGF to issue a temporary 5-day fishing and temporary 4-day small game hunting license for resident, active-duty military members. To be eligible to purchase this license, the buyer must be a “resident on active duty with the armed forces of the United States or national guard stationed outside of New Mexico and is currently on leave for thirty days or less”.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The DGF states House Bill 180 would afford an opportunity that doesn't currently exist in statute. The Department estimates of the approximate 7,000 New Mexico residents that are members of the United States Military and National Guard, approximately 1,750 active-duty residents may consider purchasing one or both of these new licenses types. However, because the Department currently offers an annual discounted-fee license to active-duty military members that allows them to fish and hunt both deer and small game for \$28.00 (versus the proposed \$12.00 fishing license and \$16.00 small game license), the Department feels that many active-duty license buyers may continue to opt for the \$28.00 option. While any current buyers switching to the new discounted license would reduce revenue, we estimate that the newly available temporary licenses may bring new customers, offsetting any revenue lost to discounts. Therefore, the Department estimates the active-duty members that will purchase the temporary license is 250 annually, resulting in an estimated increase of \$7,000 to the Game Protection Fund

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

The DGF advises this bill would require a minor modification to the Department's current licensing programs. This license would only be available from Department Offices because of the need to provide adequate documentation of the temporary leave from active-duty.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

Conflicts with Senate Bill 196 and House Bill 149 which also amend §17-3-2 and §17-3-13.

JCH/svb