

**Department of Planning and Budget
2005 Fiscal Impact Statement**

1. Bill Number: HB2815

House of Origin	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

2. Patron: Oder

3. Committee: Passed both Houses

4. Title: License required for certain fishing gear

5. Summary/Purpose: The bill permits a saltwater recreational fishing license holder to use a fish cast net, a fish dip net, or up to two eel pots without purchasing a separate gear license. Fish cast nets, dip nets, and eel pots may be used by recreational fishermen to catch bait.

6. Fiscal impact: See item 8.

7. Budget amendment necessary: No.

8. Fiscal implications: The bill specifies that fishing with a cast net, dip net, or using up to two eel pots is permissible under a recreational saltwater fishing license and does not require a separate gear license. Currently, the use of such equipment for recreational fishing is governed by the provisions of § 28.2-226.1 and requires the appropriate commercial gear license for recreational purposes. Revenue from the sale of commercial gear licenses is credited to the Marine Products Fund for support of the Marine Products Fund.

According to the Marine Resources Commission, the bill will reduce revenue to the Marine Products Fund by \$2,500 annually, based on calendar year 2003 gear license sales. It is unlikely that the bill will result in an increase in the number of recreational saltwater fishing licenses issued and related revenue, because it is assumed that the individuals that will no longer be required to purchase gear licenses are already recreational saltwater license holders.

9. Specific agency or political subdivisions affected: Marine Resource Commission.

10. Technical amendment necessary: No.

11. Other comments: None.

Date: 3/2/05 kbs

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cc: Secretary of Natural Resources