

## Department of Planning and Budget 2010 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB940

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:** Abbitt

**3. Committee:** Passed both houses.

**4. Title:** **Hunting and trapping; reduces penalty for violations.**

**5. Summary:** This bill reduces the penalty for violations of hunting and trapping laws or regulations administered by the State Forester. Currently, such a violation is punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor and could include confinement in jail for not more than 12 months and a fine of not more than \$2,500. Under the new provision, a violation would be punishable as a Class 3 misdemeanor and would include only the possibility of a fine of not more than \$500.

**6. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Final. See item 8.

**7. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** This bill reduces the penalty for violations of hunting and trapping laws or regulations administered by the State Forester from a Class 1 misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$2,500, to a Class 3 misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$500. This penalty reduction will not have a fiscal impact on the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries since all fines and penalties are deposited into the Literary Fund.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** Violation of this provision would be a Class 3 misdemeanor. Anyone convicted of a Class 3 misdemeanor is subject to a fine of up to \$500. There is not enough information available to reliably project the amount of revenue that would be collected from fines as a result of this proposal. Any revenue from fines must be deposited into the Literary Fund.

**Date:** 2/17/2010 dpbbrb

**Document:** <http://dpb.virginia.gov/efis/fistemplate.doc>