

## Department of Planning and Budget 2012 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB307

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

**2. Patron:** Crockett-Stark

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

**4. Title:** Fee for use of Department of Game and Inland Fisheries property.

**5. Summary:** This bill waives a facility use permit fee imposed by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) on visitors to Rural Retreat Lake Park who are engaged in land-based recreational activity. As of January 1, 2012, DGIF requires an access permit for visitors to department-owned Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) and public fishing lakes for persons 17 years of age and older who do not have a valid Virginia fishing, hunting, or trapping license or a boat registered with the department. The bill contains an emergency clause.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Indeterminate. See item 8.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** It is anticipated that this bill could result in a revenue loss for DGIF. Rural Retreat Lake is a 90-acre department-owned impoundment located near the town of Rural Retreat in Wythe County. As the WMAs access permits were only recently implemented, insufficient sales data exists to determine the full fiscal impact of this legislation. The cost of the daily access permit is \$4.00, while the cost of the annual access permit is \$23.00.

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

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

**11. Other Comments:** According to DGIF, the access permit fee was accepted by the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries as a state-wide permit rather than a site-specific permit, with the intention of keeping the cost to the user to a minimum.

In addition, according to DGIF, the director currently has Code authority to waive the fee in certain instances (i.e., when a civic group volunteers to help clean the site).

**Date:** 2/20/12

**Document:** G:\Legislation\2012 Session\HB307ER.DOC