

Department of Planning and Budget 2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. **Bill Number:** HB1573

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. **Patron:** Helsel

3. **Committee:** Passed Both Houses

4. **Title:** Fishing privileges; revocation of license by MRC.

5. **Summary:** Provides that in determining whether to revoke a person's tidal fishing privileges for up to a maximum of five years, the Marine Resources Commission (Commission) will take into account (i) evidence of habitual disregard for the conservation, health, or safety laws and regulations; (ii) whether the violation was committed while the person's licenses or privileges were revoked or while the person was under a Commission-ordered probation period; and (iii) evidence that significant harm occurred, or might have occurred, to the natural resources, the public health, or the seafood industry. The bill requires the Commission to accept credit card payment of any civil penalty it assesses for fishing under a revoked license and allows the Commission to collect credit service charges as apply.

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

7. **Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Final. See Item 8 below.

8. **Fiscal Implications:** The Marine Resources Commission (MRC) does not currently have the capability to accept credit card payments. It is anticipated that this bill will result in a fiscal impact to MRC. However, it is anticipated that any impact can be absorbed within existing resources.

MRC anticipates the volume of credit card transactions for the payment of civil penalties assessed for fishing under a revoked license will be low. In 2016, MRC collected \$20,000 in two large civil penalties. Thus, it is anticipated that MRC will need to acquire one credit card terminal to be located at MRC's headquarters location at a one-time cost of approximately \$500. It is also anticipated that MRC will incur annual costs of approximately \$150 in vendor fees, and a three percent transaction, or service fee, for each credit card transaction. The bill allows MRC to recover the actual service fee charges applied to a transaction.

9. **Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Marine Resources Commission.

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

11. Other Comments: HB1574 allows any person charged with violating an oyster culling regulation to post a bond by credit card, or check, or cash in lieu of throwing the cargo overboard.