

Department of Planning and Budget

2017 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB906

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

2. Patron: Surovell

3. Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

4. Title: Introduction of snakehead fish; penalty.

5. Summary: This bill prohibits the introduction of snakehead fish from any location into state waters. Current law only prohibits the introduction of snakehead fish from outside the Commonwealth.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary.

8. Fiscal Implications: It is anticipated that this bill will not result in a fiscal impact to the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. However, the proposal increases the penalty for illegally introducing snakehead fish into state waters to a Class 1 misdemeanor. As such, the proposal could result in an increase in the jail population since Class 1 misdemeanors are subject to a sentence of up to 12 months in jail. There is not enough information available to reliably estimate how many additional inmates in jail could result from this proposal. Ultimately, the presiding judge will decide if there is to be any time served in jail; however, any increase in jail population will increase costs to the state. The Commonwealth presently pays the localities \$4.00 a day for each misdemeanant or otherwise local responsible prisoner held in a jail.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Game and Inland Fisheries; state and local courts and jails.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.