

Department of Planning and Budget 2011 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB 995

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

2. Patron: Stuart

3. Committee: Passed Both Houses

4. Title: Establishes combo salt/freshwater boat license

5. Summary: This bill creates an additional boat license option for special combined individual sport fishing licenses, which allows licensees to fish in both freshwater and saltwater. The new license would enable the owner of a recreational boat, in any recreational boat he may own or operate, and his passengers, to fish in freshwater and saltwater areas of the Commonwealth under one combined license. The cost of the license for residents is \$125 and the cost of the license for nonresidents is \$200. Funds from the licenses will be shared between the Virginia Saltwater Recreational Fishing Development Fund (\$48 per residents and \$79 per nonresidents) and the Game Protection Fund (\$77 for residents and \$124 for nonresidents).

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Fiscal impact to the Virginia Marine Resource Commission is indeterminate.

Fiscal impact estimates for the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries are as follows. Any budget changes to the nongeneral fund may be made administratively:

7a. Expenditure Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2011	\$7,000		0900
2012	\$3,000		0900
2013	\$3,000		0900
2014	\$3,000		0900
2015	\$3,000		0900
2016	\$3,000		0900
2017	\$3,000		0900

7b. Revenue Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2011		
2012	(\$7,000)	0900
	(\$3,000)	1000

2013	(\$7,000)	0900
	(\$3,000)	1000
2014	(\$7,000)	0900
	(\$3,000)	1000
2015	(\$7,000)	0900
	(\$3,000)	1000
2016	(\$7,000)	0900
	(\$3,000)	1000
2017	(\$7,000)	0900
	(\$3,000)	1000

- 8. Fiscal Implications:** The State of Virginia receives federal grant monies from the Sport Fish Restoration Act, the allocation of which is partially based on the number of licenses sold. In Virginia, the allocation of these federal monies comes to both the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) as well as to the Marine Resources Commission (MRC). Once the annual federal allocation is decided upon, approximately 37 percent of that allocation goes to MRC, with the remaining grant monies going to DGIF. The passage of this bill could not only reduce the number of licenses sold on an annual basis but it could also reduce the amount of federal dollars received from the Sport Fish Restoration Act, thus affecting both DGIF and MRC.

Specifically for DGIF, the one-time \$10,000 cost is associated with the anticipated IT reprogramming expenses (this is a new license type) and for the purchase of new pre-printed license decals. The bulk of the IT portion (\$7,000) should be incurred in FY 2011 or with the passage of the bill. There will be ongoing administrative, non-staffing costs to handle this license type particularly with the purchase of preprinted forms and decals (estimated at \$3,000 per year).

The fiscal impact to MRC is a little more difficult to determine. The monies going to MRC are approximately \$1 million per year, and fund fisheries research required by the interstate compact organization, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and the federal government.

While almost impossible to predict the exact impact, this combined license could decrease the number of individual Virginia Saltwater Recreational Fishing Licenses sold, the number of boat licenses sold, and in turn, impact the federal Sports Fish Restoration dollars as well as the license monies deposited in the Virginia Saltwater Recreational Fishing License fund. Currently, monies in this fund are fully obligated and are used to substitute for many of MRC's budget reductions. Loss of revenues could impact agency program activity.

- 9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, Virginia Marine Resources Commission

- 10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

- 11. Other Comments:** None

Date: 2/17/2011