

Department of Planning and Budget 2014 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB989

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

2. Patron: Cline

3. Committee: Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

4. Title: Senior discount for special license.

5. Summary: This bill requires the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries to establish a discounted license fee for those persons 65 years of age or older who purchase a special license for hunting bear, deer, and turkey.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: Preliminary, see item 8.

7a. Expenditure Impact: N/A.

7b. Revenue Impact:

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2014	n/a	
2015	(\$166,867)	Game Protection Fund
2016	(\$166,867)	Game Protection Fund
2017	(\$166,867)	Game Protection Fund
2018	(\$166,867)	Game Protection Fund
2019	(\$166,867)	Game Protection Fund
2020	(\$166,867)	Game Protection Fund

8. Fiscal Implications: According to the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF), approximately 8,284 residents and 943 non-residents age 65 or older currently purchase bear, deer and turkey licenses. The 65 years and older resident hunting license is currently discounted at 36.4 percent. If the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries adopts the same discount for the bear, deer, turkey resident and non-resident licenses for those aged 65 and older, then the annual revenue loss would be \$115,973.37 for the resident licenses and \$50,913.17 for the non-resident licenses. The total annual revenue loss would be \$166,866.53 to the department. It is anticipated that this revenue loss can be absorbed within the agency's current resources. See other comments, below.

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

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: At the end of FY 2013, the available cash balance in the Game Protection Fund totaled \$28.9 million, an increase of 8 percent over the balance at the end of FY 2012. HB30/SB30 includes an additional \$4.6 million to be transferred to the Game Protection Fund for increased watercraft sales and use tax revenue and hunting, fishing, and wildlife equipment revenue. The total amount to be transferred to the Game Protection Fund is \$18.9 million in both FY 2015 and FY 2016.