

## **Department of Planning and Budget**

### **2020 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** SB987

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

**2. Patron:** Stuart

**3. Committee:** Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

**4. Title:** Hunting waterfowl; duck blinds.

**5. Summary:** This bill prohibits hunting or shooting migratory waterfowl in the public waters of the Commonwealth from a boat, float, raft, or other buoyant craft or device within 150 yards of a residence without the consent of the landowner, except when in active pursuit of a visibly crippled waterfowl that was legally shot by the person. The bill requires a person hunting waterfowl to also have a state and federal duck stamp prior to applying to license a stationary blind in public waters. The bill also provides that clubs holding stationary waterfowl blind licenses in Virginia Beach may continue to renew stationary blinds in the public waters. In areas other than Virginia Beach, individuals who do not own riparian rights shall be permitted to license no more than two stationary blinds in the public waters in any one season.

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

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

**8. Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) anticipates that this bill may result in a nominal fiscal impact, as it is not anticipated to significantly affect the number of licenses sold by the agency. For individuals who have been purchasing blind licenses that do not have hunting licenses, history and experience indicate that there are an equal or greater number of licensed hunters waiting on those blind locations to become available for purchase.

Additionally, DGIF anticipates that the distance from shore provisions of the bill may nominally impact the number of locations available to be licensed, but may also result in less riparian licenses being sold that are used to protect the owner's shoreline from hunting. However, non-riparian license buyers may purchase licenses for that same area, but further offshore.

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

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

**11. Other Comments:** None.