

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2019 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Enrolled - Revised

Senate Bill 95

(Senators Simonaire and Bailey)

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Environment and Transportation

**Natural Resources – Recreational License Donation Program and Fund –
Program Extension and Fund Name Change**

This bill extends the termination date (from June 30, 2019, to June 30, 2022) of Chapter 424 of 2016, which established the Recreational License Donation Program and the Recreational License Donation Fund within the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The bill also renames the fund as the Healing Hunting and Fishing Fund. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2019, and terminates June 30, 2022.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Special fund revenues and expenditures continue through FY 2022 due to the extension of the program.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Minimal or none.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: Chapter 424 of 2016 established a program through which a person may purchase and donate an angler’s license, a Chesapeake Bay and coastal sport fishing license, or a hunting license and any corresponding stamps. Donations are deposited into the Recreational License Donation Fund, which also consists of money appropriated in the State budget to the fund and any other money from any other source accepted for the benefit of the fund. Interest earnings must be credited to the general fund. The fund may be used only for donated recreational hunting or fishing licenses or stamps for use by qualified individuals.

A recipient of a donated license or stamp must be sponsored by a qualifying nonprofit charitable organization that provides recreational hunting or fishing opportunities for Gold Star recipients, disabled veterans, disabled members of the U.S. Armed Forces, or permanently disabled persons who require the use of a wheelchair. In addition, a recipient of a donated hunting license is subject to specified statutory hunting safety requirements.

DNR is authorized to issue a donated license or stamp to an eligible resident or nonresident of the State. DNR advises that there have been two donations to the Recreational License Donation Fund since its inception, and no donated stamps or licenses have been issued.

Chapter 424 is set to terminate June 30, 2019.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Natural Resources; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 31, 2019
an/lgc Third Reader - March 19, 2019
Revised - Amendment(s) - March 19, 2019
Enrolled - April 17, 2019
Revised - Amendment(s) - April 17, 2019

Analysis by: Kathleen P. Kennedy

Direct Inquiries to:
(410) 946-5510
(301) 970-5510