

Legislative Analysis



HUNTING & FISHING LICENSE DISCOUNTS

Mitchell Bean, Director
Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

Senate Bill 349 (Substitute S-3)

Sponsor: Sen. Jim Barcia

House Committee: Tourism, Outdoor Recreation and Natural Resources

Senate Committee: Hunting, Fishing and Outdoor Recreation

Complete to 6-1-09

A SUMMARY OF SENATE BILL 349 AS PASSED BY THE SENATE 5-12-09

The bill would amend Part 435 (Hunting and Fishing Licensing) of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (1) to remove certain restrictions on discounts for hunting and fishing licenses; and (2) to encourage the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to establish discounts for members of hunting and fishing organizations.

Discounts. Currently, the DNR may offer the following discounts on hunting or fishing licenses:

- A **marketing discount of up to 15 percent** to increase participation in hunting and fishing activities.
- A **discounted fee or no fee for an antlerless deer license** in a specific area as needed to increase the harvest of antlerless deer.
- A **sportsperson discount of 15 percent** when someone buys four or more licenses at the same time for the same person. (Waterfowl hunting and limited fishing licenses are not eligible for the sportsperson discount.)

Under Senate Bill 349, the DNR could (1) provide a marketing discount **of any amount** to increase participation in hunting and fishing activities; and (2) provide a discounted fee or no fee **for any license or application** (not just antlerless deer) to achieve a harvest or management objective for that species. (Specific provisions for sportsperson and antlerless deer discounts would be eliminated.)

Partnerships; report. In addition, the DNR would be encouraged to create a partnership program with organizations that promote hunting and fishing in Michigan and to report to the Legislature within a year on how many such partnerships it has established. Members of partner organizations would receive discounts.

MCL 324.43521

FISCAL IMPACT:

A fiscal analysis is in process.

Legislative Analyst: Shannan Kane
Fiscal Analyst: Kirk Lindquist

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.