



Telephone: (517) 373-5383 Fax: (517) 373-1986 TDD: (517) 373-0543

Senate Bill 349 (Substitute S-3 as reported by the Committee of the Whole)

Sponsor: Senator Jim Barcia

Committee: Hunting, Fishing and Outdoor Recreation

CONTENT

The bill would amend Part 435 (Hunting and Fishing Licensing) of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to revise provisions concerning discounts on hunting and fishing license fees.

Under Part 435, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) may discount the price of a license up to 15% for marketing purposes to increase participation in hunting and fishing activities. Additionally, the price of the anterless deer license may be reduced or eliminated in specific areas to help achieve the harvest of anterless deer. If a person purchases four or more licenses for the same person at the same time, a sportsperson discount of 15% must be provided. Waterfowl hunting licenses and limited fishing licenses are not eligible for the sportsperson discount.

The bill would delete the provisions regarding the antlerless deer license and sportsperson discount, as well as the 15% limit on a discount offered for marketing purposes. Under the bill, the price of any license or application fee could be discounted or eliminated to achieve a harvest or management objective for that species.

The bill also would require the DNR to explore the establishment of a program to enter into partnerships with organizations that promote hunting and fishing in Michigan. The program would have to offer license discounts to members of those organizations. Within one year after the bill took effect, the DNR would have to report to the Legislature on the number of partnerships that had been established.

MCL 324.43521 Legislative Analyst: Julie Cassidy

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have an indeterminate fiscal impact on the State. An increase in license discounts or temporary elimination of the fee for harvest-management purposes could result in a loss of or increase to the Game and Fish Protection Fund, depending on whether discounts and promotions resulted in additional applications.

Date Completed: 5-11-09 Fiscal Analyst: Bill Bowerman