

SFA

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Fiscal Agency

• Lansing, Michigan 48909

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House Bill 5220 (as discharged)

Sponsor: Representative Ed Giese

House Committee: Tourism, Fisheries, and Wildlife

Senate Committee: Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs

Date Completed: 12-6-89

RATIONALE

Public Act 76 of 1989 amended the Hunting and Fishing License Act to delete a requirement that a person possess both a valid turkey license and a small game license in order to hunt wild turkeys. This amendment applies to nonresident as well as resident turkey hunters. Thus, Public Act 76 effectively lowered the fee for nonresidents by \$50, the amount of a nonresident small game license, and for residents by \$9.50, the amount of a resident small game license. Some feel that nonresidents should have to pay more than \$25 (the cost of a nonresident wild turkey permit), which reportedly is the lowest in the nation, to enjoy the privilege of hunting turkey in Michigan.

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Hunting and Fishing License Act to increase from \$25 to \$75 the fee for a nonresident wild turkey hunting license.

MCL 316.306

FISCAL IMPACT

According to the Department of Natural Resources, the bill would prevent the loss of between \$15,000 and \$20,000 in revenue annually (depending on the number of nonresident turkey permits purchased). These revenues would be designated specifically for turkey management programs, whereas in the past they were earmarked for small game

management.

ARGUMENTS**Supporting Argument**

Due to Public Act 76, the revenue to be gained from nonresident turkey hunters will decrease by \$15,000 to \$20,000 annually. The bill would help to restore those funds. In addition, Michigan's \$25 nonresident turkey hunting license reportedly is the nation's lowest. By increasing the fee nonresidents must pay to hunt wild turkeys, the bill would bring Michigan's nonresident turkey hunting fee in line with other states. Additional revenue raised by the bill would be used to pay for wild turkey management programs throughout the State, which ultimately benefit all who hunt Michigan wild turkeys.

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