

# SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

## FISCAL NOTE

**BILL NO.** Senate Bill 473

**PRINTER'S NO.** 468

**AMOUNT**

(\$14,340-\$28,680)  
Decrease in Revenue

**FUND**

Fish

**DATE INTRODUCED**

February 10, 2011

**PRIME SPONSOR**

Senator Vance

**HISTORY OF BILL**

Referred to GAME AND FISHERIES, Feb. 10, 2011

Reported as committed, May 3, 2011

First consideration, May 3, 2011

Re-referred to APPROPRIATIONS, May 24, 2011

Re-reported as committed, Oct. 31, 2011

**DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF BILL**

Senate Bill 473 changes the eligibility requirements for reduced fees for fishing licenses from 180 days of active deployment to 60 days within the previous 24 month period for the members of the Pennsylvania National Guard, Air National Guard, or Reservists. The fee is reduced from the current license fee of \$21 to \$1.

The Act takes effect immediately.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

By allowing more persons to be eligible for the reduced fishing license fee and the possible increase in the number of persons taking advantage of the reduced fee, the Fish Commission could experience a reduced level of licensing fee revenue from the enactment of Senate Bill 473's provisions. The exact amount of the revenue decrease cannot be determined because the increased number of people who will take advantage of the reduced fees cannot be accurately anticipated.

However, so far this year, the Fish Commission has granted 717 reduced fee licenses to individuals, under the current 180-day active deployment eligibility requirement. This resulted in decreased revenue of \$14,340. Should the change in eligibility from 180 to 60 days of active deployment double the number of persons taking advantage of the reduced fee license, the decrease in revenue to the Fish Commission would double from \$14,340 to \$28,680. If the change in eligibility triples the number of persons purchasing a reduced fee license, then the decrease in revenue could triple to \$43,020.