

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DNR 4/29/2011

LRB Number	11-1821/1	Introduction Number	SB-075	Estimate Type	Original
Description Prohibiting the Department of Natural Resources from establishing certain restrictions on hunting antlered deer and regulating the establishment of fall open seasons for hunting deer with firearms					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The bill prohibits the Department from establishing regulations that require a hunter to first harvest an antlerless deer before harvesting their first buck (a.k.a. earn-a-buck) under the authority of each season's archery license and firearm deer license. The bill also prohibits the establishment of firearm deer seasons, except for youth, learn-to-hunt events, and disabled hunts that occur prior to the traditional November firearm season which opens on the Saturday preceding the Thanksgiving holiday. An exception is that, in a CWD Management Zone, firearm seasons for antlerless deer could be authorized each year by administrative rule as long as the closing day is on or before October 15.

State Fiscal Effect

The Department already administers the creation and distribution of carcass tags for deer hunting and establishes and publishes hunting season information. No new processes, record keeping, or printing requirements are created as a result of this proposal. Additionally, there are no new requirements of law enforcement as a result of this proposal.

Absent any replacements to October hunting seasons and the use of earn-a-buck, the Department expects deer herds in farmland regions to grow, which will result in an indeterminate increase in crop damage claims and car-killed deer removal costs. Funding for crop damage claims is limited, so the possibility of pro-rating claims could occur.

Private Sector Impact

Since the bill eliminates tools that the Department has used in the past to manage populations for their established goals, the long-term fiscal impact of bill could be an indeterminate, but potentially significant, economic loss for the vehicle insurance, agriculture and forest products industry.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications