



Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #468

Richard Bong Recreational Area Pheasant Hunting Fees (Natural Resources -- Forestry, Parks, and Recreation)

[LFB 2017-19 Budget Summary: Page 331, #13]

CURRENT LAW

Under current law, in order to hunt pheasants, a \$10 pheasant stamp is required, in addition to a small game, archer, crossbow, or sports license. Currently, 40% of the revenues generated by the sale of pheasant stamps must be used for developing, managing, preserving, restoring, and maintaining the wild pheasant population in the state, and 60% is used to raise and stock pheasants on lands under the management, ownership or control of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). In addition, under Chapter NR 45 of the administrative code, DNR charges fees for pheasant hunting at Richard Bong State Recreation Area (Kenosha County), including a hunting fee and an administrative fee. The pheasant hunting fee is currently \$12 for adults and \$7 for individuals age 17 or younger, or \$5 if pheasant stocking cannot be done on the previous day or days. A \$3 administrative fee is paid at the time of the hunting reservation request and is non-refundable. Currently, all fees collected for hunting at the Bong area are deposited in the fish and wildlife account of the conservation fund.

GOVERNOR

Specify that if the Department requires payment of an administrative fee in order to hunt pheasants in the Bong area lands or in a state recreation area, these fees are to be deposited in appropriation 20.370(1)(hw), for pheasant stocking and propagation on DNR lands. In addition, provide \$100,000 annually in the appropriation to reflect anticipated revenue from these fees.

MODIFICATION

Specify that if the Department requires payment of a fee, in order to hunt pheasants on

lands under the Department's ownership, management, supervision, or control, these fees are to be deposited in appropriation 20.370(1)(hw), for pheasant stocking and propagation.

Explanation: While the bill refers to administrative fees for pheasant hunting in Richard Bong State Recreation Area and other state recreation areas, the administration indicates the intent was for all fees collected by the Department under administrative rule for pheasant hunting in Richard Bong State Recreation Area or other state properties to be deposited in the appropriation, and the \$100,000 provided annually is based on that intent.

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