



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Fiscal Note 2025 Biennium

Bill information:

HB0243 - Revise hunter education laws (Marler, Marilyn)

Status: As Amended in Senate Finance & Claims Committee

- Significant Local Gov Impact
 Needs to be included in HB 2
 Technical Concerns
 Included in the Executive Budget
 Significant Long-Term Impacts
 Dedicated Revenue Form Attached

FISCAL SUMMARY

	<u>FY 2024</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2025</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2026</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2027</u> <u>Difference</u>
Expenditures:				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue	\$63,456	\$129,938	\$131,888	\$66,933
Federal Special Revenue	\$190,370	\$385,329	\$391,108	\$198,488
Revenue:				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Special Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Impact-General Fund Balance:	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

Description of fiscal impact: HB 243, as amended, requires all hunters and bow hunters born after 01/01/2000 to show proof of a completed hunter safety course and for those under the age of 18, students must complete in-person hunter and bowhunter safety and education courses. FWP will prioritize use of volunteers first then second use existing staff in teaching safety and education courses and report to the Environmental Quality Council (EQC) for those courses.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Assumptions:

1. FWP would continue to offer online courses, but adult courses would include a mandatory field day and students under 18 would be required to take in-person classes, which would include a field day.

2. FWP will rely on active volunteers and recruitment of additional volunteers using a 1.0 FTE per legislative intent as well as existing FWP personnel to build the number of active volunteers.
3. In 2019 there were over 800 volunteers to provide these services, but the current volunteer pool has diminished to approximately 308 full-time volunteers and 84 part-time volunteers for this program. The current pool is not sufficient to complete the in-person courses.
4. In FY 2022 there were 7,252 students that completed an online hunter education course. FWP estimates approximately 725 students would be in the age range of 18-23 and would need to take the mandatory field day course ($7,252 \times 10\% = 725$).
5. Based on best practice for firearms and bow safety training, in-person and field day classes would be limited to 5 students per instructor with an average class size of 20 students. FWP estimates this would consist of 363 classes for in-person and field days annually to be taught in different locations around the state.
6. FWP assumes 50% of those classes will not have enough volunteers, $363/2 = 182$ classes. FWP assumes 164 (90%) of these classes would be for under the age of 18 and the other 18 (10%) would be adult field day classes.
7. To meet the intent of the bill and the high demand for hunter education courses, FWP would need to contract instructors at a base wage of \$28.20 per hour x 22% overhead = \$34.40 per hour.
8. The average number of hours (teaching & preparation) for each in-person class, including the field day, is 16 hours.
9. FWP assumes the cost for each of the 18 and under classes to be \$2,202 ($\34.40 per hour x 16 hours x 4 instructors = \$2,201.60), or \$361,128.00 annually (164 classes x \$2,202.00 = \$361,128.00). The cost for each adult field day to be \$14,860.00 ($\34.40 per hour x 6 hours x 4 instructors = \$825.60) or \$14,861 annually (18 classes x \$825.60 = \$14,860.80).
10. FWP assumes the cost for personal services (1.0 FTE) will be \$80,944 and operations costs will \$426,708.00, annually.
11. The cost to collect data and report results for courses taught to the EQC will be covered by existing resources.
12. The effective date of the bill is January 1, 2024. Therefore, FY 2024 expenditures are shown at half the costs.
13. The termination date of the bill is January 1, 2027. Therefore, FY 2027 expenditures are shown at half the costs.
14. A 1.5% per year inflation factor is applied for FY 2025 through FY 2027.

	<u>FY 2024</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2025</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2026</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2027</u> <u>Difference</u>
<u>Fiscal Impact:</u>				
FTE	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
<u>Expenditures:</u>				
Personal Services	\$40,472	\$82,158	\$83,390	\$42,321
Operating Expenses	\$213,354	\$433,109	\$439,606	\$223,100
TOTAL Expenditures	\$253,826	\$515,267	\$522,996	\$265,421
<u>Funding of Expenditures:</u>				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue (02)	\$63,456	\$129,938	\$131,888	\$66,933
Federal Special Revenue (03)	\$190,370	\$385,329	\$391,108	\$198,488
TOTAL Funding of Exp.	\$253,826	\$515,267	\$522,996	\$265,421
<u>Revenues:</u>				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue (02)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Special Revenue (03)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures):</u>				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue (02)	(\$63,456)	(\$129,938)	(\$131,888)	(\$66,933)
Federal Special Revenue (03)	(\$190,370)	(\$385,329)	(\$391,108)	(\$198,488)

Sponsor's Initials

Date

Budget Director's Initials

Date

 4-17-23