

**FISCAL NOTE**  
 LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

<b>ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES</b> (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)				
	<b>FY 2019-20</b>		<b>FY 2020-21</b>	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS				
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS				

**Any Fiscal Notes received from state agencies and political subdivisions are attached following the Legislative Fiscal Analyst Estimate.**

The purpose of LB 287 is to:

- Provide the Game and Parks Commission with the authority to disseminate promotional materials in addition to the currently authorized informational materials.
- Allow for temporary reduced rates and combinations of permits/stamps for specific events or during specific timeframes.
- Provide for the ability of big game hunters and paddlefish anglers to purchase preference and bonus points.
- Eliminate or reduce several fees charged for the replacement of lost/damaged permits.
- Remove several minimum fee price requirements.
- Increase park permit maximum thresholds.
- Eliminate the Aquatic Invasive Species add-on fee and incorporate the fee into the normal price of registering a boat in order to be compliant with a federal interpretation of acceptable fee structure.

With regard to the park permit maximum fee threshold, the Commission indicates increasing the fee to the maximum threshold could take years and not be possible in the current biennium. Pursuant to NRS 37-438 the Commission is able to raise the fees to the maximum through the adoption and promulgation of rules and regulations if they so choose.

All changes are discussed in further detail in the agency’s fiscal note (see attached) as is the inability to determine a direct fiscal impact. There is no basis to disagree with the agency’s indeterminate fiscal impact.

Lancaster County has indicated there is no fiscal impact. There is no basis to disagree with this assessment.

<b>ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY &amp; POLT. SUB. RESPONSE</b>	
LB: 287	AM: AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
REVIEWED BY: Claire Oglesby	DATE: 1/22/19 PHONE: (402) 471-4174
COMMENTS: Nebraska Game and Parks Commission’s statement appears reasonable based on the assumptions provided.	

<b>ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY &amp; POLT. SUB. RESPONSE</b>	
LB: 287	AM: AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Lancaster County Treasurer
REVIEWED BY: Claire Oglesby	DATE: 1/22/2019 PHONE: (402) 471-4174
COMMENTS: No basis to disagree with Lancaster County Treasurer’s fiscal note.	

Please complete ALL (5) blanks in the first three lines.

2019

LB<sup>(1)</sup> 287 changes to Game Law re permit/stamp fees

FISCAL NOTE

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: <sup>(2)</sup> Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Prepared by: <sup>(3)</sup> Patrick Cole Date Prepared: <sup>(4)</sup> 1/20/2019 Phone: <sup>(5)</sup> 402-471-5523

ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION

	FY 2019-20		FY 2020-21	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
CASH FUNDS	_____	See below	_____	See below
FEDERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
OTHER FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL FUNDS	=====	=====	=====	=====

Explanation of Estimate:

The proposed legislation would make a number of changes to the Game Law related to agency's ability to adjust permit/stamp fees on a temporary basis, provide for hunters to set out draws but still purchase preference points, and reposition the Aquatic Invasive Species fees to comply with federal directive. Additional items are also covered and will be discussed in the following by either section or action.

Sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 provide definitions which in and of themselves provide no fiscal impact.

Section 5 expands the agency's options in how it may inform the public of the outdoor recreational opportunities in Nebraska. Currently it is in the form of information only. The proposed language would broaden it to include promotional materials. This may include small token items such as participation recognition items such as t-shirt, caps, food and refreshments to peak interest and participatory learning. This would occur at times when an outside partner/donor is not available to contribute or can only cover a portion of the costs. Since the number of events that this would be used for is unknown nor the items to be used, no estimate is provided.

Sections 6,9,10,11,12,13 would allow the commission to offer permits/stamps or combinations of each at temporarily reduced rates for specific events or during specified timeframes. This would also allow the fee to return to its original price after the time frame/event occurred. It will likely be initially revenue negative (due to discount rate) but potentially revenue positive if the offer entices new participants or gains new certifiable

BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

Personal Services:

POSITION TITLE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS		2019-20	2020-21
	19-20	20-21	EXPENDITURES	EXPENDITURES
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Benefits.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Travel.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Capital outlay.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Aid.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Capital improvements.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL.....	_____	_____	_____	_____

## **LB<sup>(1)</sup> 287 changes to Game Law re permit/stamp fees**

hunters or anglers (federal aid \$) and/or new customers. It is anticipated that the Commission will evaluate the potential revenue losses and potential gains prior to offering new permit combinations, with a focus on combinations with a higher potential of being revenue positive and gaining new participants in hunting and fishing. It would be a cost savings to participants.

Sections 11, 12, 13 and 14 address preference points. Big game hunters and paddlefish anglers have requested an opportunity to purchase preference points and avoid the draw due to potential schedule conflicts. Currently an individual must apply for a draw permit to get either a permit (successful draw=permit and LOSS of all points) or a preference point (unsuccessful draw=no permit but 1 add on preference point). The number of accumulated preference points improves your odds of getting a particular permit in a given year. If an individual has enough preference points and thinks they are likely to draw a permit, but have a reason they can't hunt/fish that year, they don't want to risk drawing and losing all accumulated preference points AND not be able to use the permit. They also don't want to lose an opportunity to gain another preference point; thus, the reason for this requested change. Since this is a new opportunity it is uncertain how many individuals, for any given species, would take advantage of it. It would be revenue positive due to the add-on fee above the application fee. However since participation rate is unknown and would vary from year to year and species by species, no estimate is given. Implementation process specifics would work with current programming to minimize expense.

Sections 7, 8 and 9 include language that would essentially allow for the reduction or elimination of fees charged for replacing lost or damaged permits. Currently the permit replacement fee is \$5 for most permits. With the development and implementation of electronic and mobile device delivery system, the need for replacement paper permits has diminished for most permits. Lowering or eliminating the fee while revenue negative is expected to have a minimal effect on total revenues.

Section 10, in addition to providing the discount/bundling options identified earlier for park permits, would raise the maximum fee for each while eliminating the minimum. Currently the maximum fee for resident motor vehicle annual permits is \$35 and a nonresident motor vehicle permit is \$45. The proposed new maximums would be \$40 and \$55 respectively. Duplicate annual permits are half price of a regular annual permit thus new fees of \$17.50 and \$20, resident, nonresident respectively would be the maximum amounts. Daily permits are currently maximized at \$7 and \$8, resident/nonresident. Only the nonresident would increase. The new max would be \$10.

The following chart shows the estimated increased revenue these changes could have over-time. The estimates are based on 2018 sales (through December). Increases to the max level could take several years and certainly would not be achievable in current biennium.

Permit Name	2019 fee	LB287MAX	2018 QTY	Current \$	NEW MAX\$	MAX GAIN	
Resident Annual Park	\$ 30.00	\$ 40.00	134,471	\$ 4,034,130	\$ 5,378,840	\$ 1,344,710	
<b>Resident Daily Park</b>	\$ 6.00	<b>\$ 7.00</b>	175,464	\$ 1,052,784	\$ 1,228,248	\$ 175,464	<b>no change</b>
Resident Duplicate Park	\$ 15.00	\$ 20.00	67,844	\$ 1,017,660	\$ 1,356,880	\$ 339,220	
				<b>\$6,104,574</b>	<b>\$7,963,968</b>	<b>\$ 1,859,394</b>	
Nonresident Annual Park	\$ 45.00	\$ 55.00	9,801	\$ 441,045	\$ 539,055	\$ 98,010	
Nonresident Daily Park	\$ 8.00	\$ 10.00	101,709	\$ 813,672	\$ 1,017,090	\$ 203,418	
Nonresident Duplicate Park	\$ 22.50	\$ 27.50	3,412	\$ 76,770	\$ 93,830	\$ 17,060	
				<b>\$1,331,487</b>	<b>\$1,649,975</b>	<b>\$ 318,488</b>	
				\$ 7,436,061	\$ 9,613,943	\$ 2,177,882	

Section 15 allows the commission to require hunter orange to be worn during additional authorized hunting season. This would not have a fiscal impact on the Commission

**LB<sup>(1)</sup> 287 changes to Game Law re permit/stamp fees**

Section 16 and 17 eliminates the Aquatic Invasive Species add on fee at the time of resident boat registration fees and instead increases the boat registration fees by a like amount (\$5 each). This is expected to bring the State into compliance with Federal interpretation of acceptable fee structure in order to receive Coast Guard funds for boating law enforcement and boating education. Since this only changes the structural/naming process for resident boat registration, no fiscal impact is expected. The FY 2018 fees collected for add on AIS fees of \$147,360 would be shifted to the increase in boat registration fees for no net gain/loss.

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**2019**

**LB<sup>(1)</sup> 287**

**FISCAL NOTE**

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: <sup>(2)</sup> Lancaster County Treasurer

Prepared by: <sup>(3)</sup> Donald Arp Date Prepared: <sup>(4)</sup> 01/17/2019 Phone: <sup>(5)</sup> 402-441-6487

**ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION**

	<u>FY 2019-20</u>		<u>FY 2020-21</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
CASH FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
FEDERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
OTHER FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>=====</b>	<b>=====</b>	<b>=====</b>	<b>=====</b>

Explanation of Estimate: As currently drafted, LB 287 will have No Fiscal Impact on our office. For Rachel Garver, Lancaster County Treasurer.

**BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE**

Personal Services:

<u>POSITION TITLE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF POSITIONS</u>		<u>2019-20</u>	<u>2020-21</u>
	<u>19-20</u>	<u>20-21</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>
Benefits.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Travel.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Capital outlay.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Aid.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
Capital improvements.....	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>_____</b>	<b>_____</b>	<b>_____</b>	<b>_____</b>