

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 52nd Legislature

Bill No.:	HB 2963
Version:	Committee Substitute
Author:	Sears
Date:	2/5/2010
Impact:	Potential loss of federal funding if measure is not passed.

Bill Summary

Research Analyst: Colin Swearingen

The committee substitute for HB2963 consolidates the lifetime hunting licenses. Instead of selling lifetime licenses for both 60+ and 64+ years-old, the Wildlife Commission would be able to sell one senior citizen (65+ years-old) lifetime hunting and fishing license. In addition, any person arrested for hunting or taking any waterfowl without a waterfowl license can purchase a substitute temporary 30 day stamp or license from the arresting game warden in lieu of posting bond. HB2963 also clarifies that portions of the license fees for the Oklahoma Wildlife Land Stamp will be deposited in the Oklahoma Wildlife Fund.

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Analyst: Mark Nichols

The committee substitute for HB 2963 raises the age for certain senior licenses, raises the fee for certain licenses, provides for a deposit in the Oklahoma Wildlife Land Fund, removes certain senior exemptions, reduces the fee for certain senior lifetime hunting and fishing licenses, and excepts the Land Stamp fee for certain senior licenses, and removes the lifetime Waterfowl license. The measure adds additional hunting and fishing privileges, including adding the trapping license to all lifetime license holders. Currently, this \$10.00 license has to be purchased separately. This bill also changes the trapping season to coincide with license expiration date. This bill also eliminates 5 other lifetime licenses in an effort to consolidate licenses.

Fiscal Analysis

Officials at the Department of Wildlife estimate that the revenue decrease brought about by the provisions of this measure would be offset through annual license sales. However, the Department estimates a loss of \$1,139,580 if this measure isn't passed, due to the fact that licenses have to net at least \$1 in revenue in order to qualify for federal certification and the federal dollars attached to that.

Long Term Fiscal Considerations

None

Fiscal Analysis Reviewed By:

Janice Buchanan

House Fiscal Director