

152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL NOTE

BILL: HOUSE BILL NO. 271

SPONSOR: Representative Carson

DESCRIPTION: AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 7 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO

REGULATIONS AND PROHIBITIONS CONCERNING GAME AND FISH.

Assumptions:

1. This Act becomes effective upon signature by the Governor.

- 2. This Act eliminates the prohibition against hunting game birds on Sundays.
- 3. The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control has the authority to establish and regulate season dates, bag limits, and enforcement for hunting game birds. It is assumed that 4-5 days a month of game bird hunting would be added to the 9 month season.
- 4. To ensure education, compliance, and enforcement, DNREC will incur the following costs associated with Sunday game bird hunting:
 - a. Recurring GF Costs: \$90,671
 - i. \$80,671 in the Fiscal Year 2025 personnel costs for overtime pay for Natural Resource Officers, including other employment costs (OECs) at a rate of 32.94%.
 - ii. \$6,500 for contractual costs for fleet vehicles, cell phones, etc.
 - iii. \$3,500 for supply costs for boat and ATV fuel.
- 5. A 2% inflation cost has been included for projected increases in salary and OECs.

Cost:

Fiscal Year 2025: \$90,671 **Fiscal Year 2026:** \$92,284 **Fiscal Year 2027:** \$93,930

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