

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: Original
POSITION: Neutral

BILL NUMBER: SB 1166
AUTHOR: D. Cox

BILL SUMMARY: Game Refuges

'Game refuges' are established by existing law as areas where it is unlawful to take or possess any bird or mammal without a special permit or authorization. In addition to the hunting ban, individuals are required to disassemble or encase firearms and provide 24 hours notification before traveling through a game refuge when their travel is not on a public highway or other public thoroughfare. This bill would revoke the notification requirement and clarify that all law enforcement officers are authorized to enter game refuges in the performance of their duties, and are not subject to notification requirements or firearm restrictions.

FISCAL SUMMARY

This bill would not have a fiscal impact on the Department of Fish and Game.

Any local government costs resulting from the mandate in this measure would not be state-reimbursable, because the mandate only involves the definition of a crime or the penalty for conviction of a crime, and the bill contains an appropriate 'crimes and infractions' cost disclaimer.

COMMENTS

This bill would have no fiscal impact and concerns a policy matter on which we are neutral.

This bill would revoke the notification requirement for traveling through game refuges and clarify that all law enforcement officers are authorized to enter game refuges in the performance of their duties, and are not subject to notification requirements or firearm restrictions. The boundaries of some game refuges are not well identified and it is difficult for individuals and law enforcement officers to know whether they are inside the boundaries of a game refuge. This makes it hard to comply with the notification requirement. There is also ambiguity in current law about the applicability of firearm restrictions in game refuges to law enforcement officers.

Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)							Fund Code	
	SO	LA	CO	PROP	FC	FC	FC		
	(Dollars in Thousands)								
	RV	98	FC	2007-2008	FC	2008-2009	FC	2009-2010	Code
3600/Dept FishGam	SO	No		-----	No/Minor	Fiscal Impact	-----		0200
<u>Fund Code</u>	<u>Title</u>								
0200	Fish and Game Preservation Fund								

Analyst/Principal (0634) M. Almy	Date	Program Budget Manager Karen Finn	Date
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Department Deputy Director	Date
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Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved _____
			Position Disapproved _____

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