

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: April 19, 2010
POSITION: Oppose
SPONSOR: Audobon California

BILL NUMBER: AB 2223
AUTHOR: P. Nava

BILL SUMMARY: Wildlife Management Areas: Nontoxic Shot

Existing law prohibits the use of lead shot when taking big game and coyote. This bill, commencing July 1, 2011, would prohibit the use of any ammunition other than nontoxic shot when taking game birds, small game or nongame species within a wildlife management area and imposes a \$500 fine for a violation. Additionally, because the violation would create a new crime, this bill would create a state-mandated local program.

FISCAL SUMMARY

This bill would require additional warden positions and funding from the Fish and Game Preservation Fund. DFG estimates that it would require 2.5 PYs at the Warden level at a cost of \$230,000 annually to make up for the time lost implementing and enforcing the new law. Additionally, DFG states that this bill could result in a decreased number of hunters using wildlife management areas, as non-toxic shot is more expensive than lead shot. This would result in less revenue for the wildlife management areas for habitat and facilities' management.

COMMENTS

Finance opposes this bill for the following reasons:

- This bill would require an increase in DFG warden positions for which there currently is no funding.
- This bill could result in a loss in revenue for the wildlife management areas for habitat and facilities' management.

As with any new law or regulation, there would also be an increase in violations in the first few years, and a subsequent increase in court time, disposition, and storage of evidence, as well as report-writing time associated with these violations. Also, there would be an associated increase in educational efforts, as well as enforcement efforts, until the law is well established with the hunting and shooting public.

Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)									Fund Code
	SO	LA			PROP			FC		
	RV	98	FC	2009-2010	FC	2010-2011	FC	2011-2012		
3600/Dept FishGam	SO	No	C	\$230	C	\$230	C	\$230	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
-------------------------------------	------	--------------------------------------	------

Department Deputy Director	Date
----------------------------	------

Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved _____
			Position Disapproved _____

BILL ANALYSIS Form DF-43 (Rev 03/95 Buff)