



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Fiscal Note 2017 Biennium

Bill # HB0495

Title: Require bond for bison transfer

Primary Sponsor: Meyers, G. Bruce

Status: As Introduced

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Local Gov Impact | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Needs to be included in HB 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Included in the Executive Budget | <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Long-Term Impacts | <input type="checkbox"/> Dedicated Revenue Form Attached |

FISCAL SUMMARY

	<u>FY 2016</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2017</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2018</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2019</u> <u>Difference</u>
Expenditures:				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenue:				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Impact-General Fund Balance:	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

- Description of fiscal impact:** HB 495 requires the Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks to post a bond for each bison that is sold or transferred by the department to insure payment of potential damage the bison may cause. There are currently no bison transplants in progress or anticipated in the near future.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Assumptions:

- No transfers are currently planned through FY 2019.
- However, if a bison transfer were to occur, FWP assumes a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 60 bison would be involved. Each \$5,000 bond would require a \$500 premium.
 - 10 bison bonds at \$500 each would total \$5,000.
 - 60 bison bonds at \$500 each would total \$30,000.
- Hunting and fishing license dollars cannot be used for compensation costs associated with damage caused by wild buffalo or bison. Doing so would constitute a diversion of license revenue as defined by the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) (MCA 87-1-708 and 50 CFR80.11), making FWP ineligible to receive future funding from USFWS grant programs. It is assumed that the Fish and Wildlife Service would revoke FWP funding for all PR/DJ revenue if license dollars are spent for purposes of this bill. In FY 2015, the

department had revenues of \$20,199,038 in PR and \$7,580,713 in DJ for a total of \$27,779,751. Therefore, it is assumed that a general fund appropriation would be required to acquire the required bonds.

Technical Notes:

5. It is unknown whether the state could find such bonds to purchase for bison that are no longer under the control of the state, but under the jurisdiction of a tribal government.

Sponsor's Initials

Date

Budget Director's Initials

Date