

# OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

Legislative Office Building, Room 5200  
Hartford, CT 06106 ◊ (860) 240-0200  
<http://www.cga.ct.gov/ofa>

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sHB-5523

AN ACT CONCERNING A TRIBAL WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES  
ADVISORY COUNCIL.

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## ***OFA Fiscal Note***

### ***State Impact:***

<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>Fund-Effect</b>	<b>FY 27 \$</b>	<b>FY 28 \$</b>
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Revenue Loss	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

***Municipal Impact:*** None

### ***Explanation***

The bill makes various changes related to tribal wildlife and fishery programs.

**Section 1** establishes the Connecticut Tribal Wildlife and Fisheries Advisory Council. This does not result in a cost to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) as DEEP has the staff and expertise necessary to meet the requirements of the bill.

**Section 2** requires the DEEP commissioner to give free hunting and fishing permits to any enrolled member of a federally- or state-recognized tribe. This results in a revenue loss to the resources of the General Fund. The scope of the revenue loss is indeterminate as it is unknown how many free permits will be issued and correspondingly how many fewer hunting and fishing (paid) permits will be purchased.

Primary Analyst: SB  
Contributing Analyst(s):  
Reviewer: ME

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License and permit fee range from approximately \$11 to \$65 dollars<sup>1</sup>.

**Section 3** requires the Department of Agriculture (DoAg) to prioritize tribal meat, fish, and aquaculture facilities for technical assistance and various other federal support. This does not result in a cost to the state.

### ***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of free permits and licenses issued and the corresponding revenue loss.

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<sup>1</sup><https://portal.ct.gov/deep/hunting/2026-connecticut-hunting-and-trapping-guide/hunting-and-trapping-licenses>