

**FISCAL NOTE**  
 LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST ESTIMATE

<b>ESTIMATE OF FISCAL IMPACT – STATE AGENCIES</b> (See narrative for political subdivision estimates)				
	<b>FY 2023-24</b>		<b>FY 2024-25</b>	
	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE	EXPENDITURES	REVENUE
GENERAL FUNDS				
CASH FUNDS		See below		See below
FEDERAL FUNDS				
OTHER FUNDS				
TOTAL FUNDS		See below		See below

**Any Fiscal Notes received from state agencies and political subdivisions are attached following the Legislative Fiscal Analyst Estimate.**

LB425 increases the maximum fee amounts that the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) can charge for nonresident annual permits, one to three-day permits, and multi-year permits for hunting, fishing, and combination hunt/fish permits. LB425 also raises the maximum cap for nonresident permits. In addition, this allows NGPC to place limits on the nonresident permits during special deer, antelope, and elk depredation seasons. Next, LB425 adds elk to the species that may be hunted in game refuges. Then, this bill exempts an auction mountain sheep permit from counting against the lifetime limit of one mountain sheep permit. Furthermore, LB425 increases the area of a county that may be utilized for controlled shooting areas from 2% to not more than 5% of the county. Finally, this bill increases the quorum from four members of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission to five members required at public meetings.

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) had indicated that increasing the capped amount which permits cannot go above, does not cause a fiscal impact without the NGPC actually increasing the fees. However, for the purposes of showing what the potential fiscal impact of LB425 could be, the agency performed calculations utilizing the maximum allowable increases which would be available should LB425 pass.

NGPC has stated that under this scenario, in most cases this would be an increase of 18% in calendar year 2025 (for which only the first 6 months would be in FY2024-25). NGPC used a 50% assumption, that only 50% of the potential revenue for the variety of nonresident annual permits, one to three-day permits, and multi-year permits for hunting, fishing, and combination hunt/fish permits in FY2024-25 would be realized as revenue FY2024-25. In addition, the Spring Turkey permits sold in early 2024 would be in FY2023-24. The chart provided by NGPC of their potential impact of LB425 is on NGPC's attached fiscal note. The agency utilized sales figures from their 2021 calendar year permit sales. NGPC has indicated a potential cash fund increase in revenue of \$389,250 in FY2023-24 and a cash fund increase in revenue of \$818,348 in FY2024-25. However, as these revenue numbers are based on the high-end of the cap fees, and with the number who would buy these permits at this high-price really indeterminate, these numbers are not showing in the boxes above (only the narrative).

<b>ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES STATE BUDGET DIVISION: REVIEW OF AGENCY &amp; POLT. SUB. RESPONSE</b>			
LB: 425	AM:	AGENCY/POLT. SUB: Nebraska Game and Parks Commission	
REVIEWED BY: Jacob Leaver	DATE: 1/25/2023	PHONE: (402) 471-4173	
COMMENTS: The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission's estimated fiscal impact to the commission appears reasonable as a result of LB 425.			

Please complete ALL (5) blanks in the first three lines.

**2023**

**LB**<sup>(1)</sup> 425 Nonresident Fee Cap Change and Permit Provisions

**FISCAL NOTE**

State Agency OR Political Subdivision Name: <sup>(2)</sup> Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Prepared by: <sup>(3)</sup> Kay Mencil Date Prepared: <sup>(4)</sup> January 18, 2023 Phone: <sup>(5)</sup> 402-471-5189

**ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY STATE AGENCY OR POLITICAL SUBDIVISION**

	<u>FY 2023-24</u>		<u>FY 2024-25</u>	
	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>	<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>REVENUE</u>
GENERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
CASH FUNDS	_____	\$389,250.00	_____	818,347.75
FEDERAL FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
OTHER FUNDS	_____	_____	_____	_____
TOTAL FUNDS	=====	=====	=====	=====

**Explanation of Estimate:**

The proposed legislation would increase the maximum amount the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission could charge for several nonresident permit types. Each section will be touched upon with a summary or chart of the affected permits and the potential fiscal impact.

Section 1 codifies the quorum of five members required for the transaction of business at a public meeting.

Section 2 addresses increasing the maximum permit cap fees that may be charged for nonresident annual, short-term (1-3 day) and multi-year hunting, fishing, combination hunt/fish permits. The maximum capped fees for nonresident permits are increased. The accompanying chart summarizes the changes.

Section 3 addresses increasing the maximum permit cap fees that may be charged for nonresident deer permits. The maximum fee for a nonresident deer permit is increased. The accompanying chart summarizes the changes.

Section 4 Special depredation seasons (deer, antelope, elk), clarifies limitation on nonresident permits.

Section 5 addresses increasing the maximum permit cap fees that may be charged for nonresident antelope permits. The maximum fee for a nonresident antelope permit is increased. The accompanying chart summarizes the changes.

Section 6 excepts an auction mountain sheep permit from the once in a lifetime limited mountain sheep permit.

Section 7 codifies the group hunt application from a maximum of two applications to not more than six in one application.

Section 8 addresses increasing the maximum permit cap fees that may be charged for nonresident turkey permits. The maximum fee for a nonresident turkey permit is increased. The accompanying chart summarizes the changes.

Section 9 codifies the increase for game breeding and controlled shooting areas in any one county to not exceed five percent of the total acreage of the county in which the area sought to be licensed.

Section 10 codifies the inclusion of elk to species that can be hunted in the Garden County refuge.

# Fiscal Impact

The increasing of the permit fee 'caps' does not in and of itself cause a fiscal impact without Commission action. For fiscal note purposes it will be projected that the maximum allowable increase could be enacted, which in most cases would be 18% in 2025 CY. The actual realization of revenues would cross fiscal years with FY25/26 being the first year to realize a full year's impact. For simplicity it will be estimated that only 50% of the revenue increase will be realized in FY24/25 and Spring Turkey permits in FY23/24.

The accompanying chart provides the 'maximum' scenario of implementing increases under the proposed legislation for illustrative purposes only. Actual fees are typically set at even dollars or quarter dollar increments, even and half dollars will be used as the 'likely' scenario. For purposes of this fiscal note, sales figures of 2021 will be used as the basis of predictions.

Utilizing 2021 calendar year permit sales and the estimated likely fee rate, FY24/25 could result in an additional \$818,347.75 in revenue while FY25/26 would experience the full effect with an estimated 1,636,695.50.

Section	PERMIT	Current CAP	LB425 CAP	% change	2021 CY Price	18% rounded	2021 CY Sales	2021 CY \$ Sales	Potential Increase 2025 CY Rev 18%	18% Revenue Increase
HUNTING PERMIT (37-407)										
	2 Nonresident Annual	\$ 106.00	\$ 138.00	30%	\$ 106.00	\$ 125.00	11280	\$ 1,195,680.00	\$ 1,410,000.00	\$ 214,320.00
	2 Nonresident 2-day	\$ 73.00	\$ 95.00	30%	\$ 73.00	\$ 86.00	3677	\$ 268,421.00	\$ 316,222.00	\$ 47,801.00
									\$ -	\$ -
FISHING PERMIT (37-407)										
	2 Nonresident Annual	\$ 66.00	\$ 86.00	30%	\$ 66.00	\$ 77.50	7796	\$ 514,536.00	\$ 604,190.00	\$ 89,654.00
	2 Nonresident 1-DAY	\$ 12.00	\$ 15.00	25%	\$ 11.50	\$ 13.50	19926	\$ 229,149.00	\$ 269,001.00	\$ 39,852.00
	2 Nonresident 3-DAY	\$ 22.00	\$ 29.00	32%	\$ 19.00	\$ 22.00	10030	\$ 190,570.00	\$ 220,660.00	\$ 30,090.00
									\$ -	\$ -
COMBINATION HUNT & FISH (37-407)										
	2 Nonresident Annual	\$ 159.00	\$ 207.00	30%	\$ 159.00	\$ 187.50	1010	\$ 160,590.00	\$ 189,375.00	\$ 28,785.00
									\$ -	\$ -
TURKEY (37-457)										
	8 Nonresident Spring Turkey	\$ 126.00	\$ 164.00	30%	\$ 125.00	\$ 147.50	17300	\$ 2,162,500.00	\$ 2,551,750.00	\$ 389,250.00
	8 Nonresident Fall Turkey	\$ 126.00	\$ 164.00	30%	\$ 125.00	\$ 147.50	533	\$ 66,625.00	\$ 78,617.50	\$ 11,992.50
									\$ -	\$ -
ANTELOPE (37-449)										
	5 Nonresident	\$ 198.00	\$ 257.00	30%	\$ 198.00	\$ 233.50	296	\$ 58,608.00	\$ 69,116.00	\$ 10,508.00
									\$ -	\$ -
DEER (37-447)										
	3 Nonresident	\$ 284.00	\$ 369.00	30%	\$ 282.00	\$ 332.50	15142	\$ 4,270,044.00	\$ 5,034,715.00	\$ 764,671.00
	3 Nonresident Season Choice Anterless Only	\$ 284.00	\$ 369.00	30%	\$ 79.00	\$ 93.00	698	\$ 55,142.00	\$ 64,914.00	\$ 9,772.00
									\$ -	\$ -
	Potential increase in Revenue at the max of 18%									\$ 1,636,695.50
								FY24/25	50% of sale	\$ 818,347.75
								Spring Turkey Sales (Sale date 1/24)	FY23/24	\$ 389,250.00

## BREAKDOWN BY MAJOR OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE

### Personal Services:

POSITION TITLE	NUMBER OF POSITIONS		2023-24 EXPENDITURES	2024-25 EXPENDITURES
	23-24	24-25		
Benefits.....				
Operating.....				
Travel.....				
Capital outlay.....				
Aid.....				
Capital improvements.....				
<b>TOTAL.....</b>				