

**Fiscal Services Division**  
**Legislative Services Agency**  
**Fiscal Note**

---

SF 206 - Deer Harvest (LSB 2270 SV.2)

Analyst: Debra Kozel (Phone: (515) 281-6767) (deb.kozel@legis.state.ia.us)

Fiscal Note Version – SF 206 as Amended and Passed by the House

---

**Description**

Senate File 206, as amended and passed by the House, makes the following changes related to deer hunting:

- Specifies 6,000 non-resident hunters that purchase an antlered or any-sex deer license must purchase an additional antlerless deer license for \$100.
- Specifies all resident and non-resident hunters pay a \$1.00 fee for the Help Us Stop Hunger (HUSH) Program.
- Includes whitetail farm deer on hunting preserves under the definition of farm deer.
- Includes the definition of a farm unit and changes the ten-acre requirement to two acres.
- Eliminates language that the Natural Resource Commission adopt Administrative Rules for the certification of farm units.
- Requires the Natural Resource Commission to establish a deer harvest reporting system and specifies the information that must be submitted.
- Specifies the Natural Resource Commission to establish special deer hunts in counties where antlerless deer licenses remain available for issuance. Allows a resident hunter to purchase up to three licenses prior to December 15, and after December 15, a resident or non-resident can purchase an unlimited number of antlerless deer licenses. The resident fee is \$10.00. Specifies a person in violation is guilty of a simple misdemeanor.
- Specifies that a landowner's or tenant's signature certifies they are eligible for a free wild turkey or deer license. A person found to have submitted false information is guilty of a simple misdemeanor.

**Background**

The number of deer and vehicle collision accidents has increased in Iowa. During 2004, there were 18,000 accidents in Iowa with an estimated cost of \$60.0 million to insurance companies. During the same time period, the DNR sold 28,000 additional deer licenses (23,000 antlerless deer) and reported that 2,000 deer were donated to the HUSH Program. The HUSH Program allows hunters to donate harvested deer to designated food lockers where the meat is processed and then donated to the Iowa Food Bank.

The average State costs for one serious misdemeanor conviction ranges from \$101 (court costs) to \$4,100 (court costs, jury trial, indigent defense, prison, and parole). The maximum costs will be incurred across multiple years while the offender is supervised in the correctional system, either in prison or in the community.

**Assumptions**

1. It is estimated that 340,000 residents and 15,000 non-residents will purchase licenses and pay the \$1.00 HUSH Program fee for total revenue of \$355,000.
2. It is estimated that 6,000 non-resident hunters will pay an additional \$100 to purchase an antlerless deer license.
3. It is estimated the expenditures for hunters reporting harvested deer is \$323,000 per year.
4. The number of special deer hunting licenses sold is unknown.

**Correctional Impact**

The creation of new offenses carries the potential for a correctional impact on court caseloads, prisons, county jails, Community-Based Corrections (CBC), and indigent defense resources. However, due to a lack of data, that correctional impact cannot be estimated.

**Fiscal Impact**

The estimated fiscal impact of SF 206, as amended and passed by the House, is an increase in revenue of \$355,000 for the HUSH Program and an increase in revenue of \$277,000 for the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund for FY 2006 and each following year.

**Sources**

Department of Natural Resources  
Department of Human Rights, Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Division

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

---

April 11, 2005

---

The fiscal note and correctional impact statement for this bill was prepared pursuant to Joint Rule 17 and pursuant to Section 2.56, Code of Iowa. Data used in developing this fiscal note and correctional impact statement are available from the Fiscal Services Division, Legislative Services Agency to members of the Legislature upon request.

---