

# OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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<http://www.cga.ct.gov/ofa>

sHB-5388

## AN ACT CONCERNING FISHING AND HUNTING RIGHTS OF CERTAIN NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES.

### ***OFA Fiscal Note***

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

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Revenue Loss	See Below	See Below
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection	GF - Cost	42,500	32,500
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits <sup>1</sup>	GF - Cost	13,231	13,231

Note: GF=General Fund

***Municipal Impact:*** None

#### ***Explanation***

**Section 1** increases the number of free private land deer permits issued annually, by decreasing the required minimum size of an Indian's reservation in order to qualify. 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 additional free permits would be issued and correspondingly how many fewer (paid) permits would be purchased. The cost of firearm permits ranges from \$11-\$41 for Connecticut residents.<sup>2</sup>

**Section 2** requires the Department of Energy and Environmental

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<sup>1</sup>The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 40.71% of payroll in FY 26.

<sup>2</sup><https://portal.ct.gov/deep/hunting/2025-connecticut-hunting-and-trapping-guide/hunting-and-trapping-licenses>

Protection (DEEP) to develop a free ceremonial taking permit. 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 ceremonial permits would be issued and correspondingly how many fewer hunting and fishing (paid) permits would be purchased.

Additionally, **Section 2** results in a cost to DEEP associated with the development and enforcement of the new permit. DEEP would require a part-time Environmental Conservation Officer, with a salary of \$32,500 and corresponding fringe benefits of \$13,231 (for a total of \$45,721) annually, beginning in FY 26. DEEP would also require \$10,000 in information technology funding in order to update the on-line licensing system to incorporate the new permit.

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

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation and the number of permits issued.