OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-6248

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PENALTY FOR ILLEGALLY TAKING STRIPED BASS.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Department of Energy and	GF - Revenue	Minimal	Minimal
Environmental Protection	Gain		
Note: GF=General Fund			

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a minimal revenue gain to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) by increasing the fine for the taking of striped bass. The increased fine is set at \$250 per violation. Currently, the fine for a violation in inland waters is \$154 and the fine for marine waters is \$75.

It is estimated that there were approximately 300 striped bass violations statewide, during the last calendar year. To the extent that these violations result in increased fees collected, there will be a revenue increase to DEEP. For each 100 inland water violations there will be \$9,600 in additional revenue and for each 100 marine water violations there will be \$17,500 in additional revenue.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of inland and marine water violations.