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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

S.B. 28
134th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for S.B. 28's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Reported by House Agriculture and Conservation

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Hoagland

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- The Division of Wildlife within the Department of Natural Resources could see a small gain (likely no more than a few thousand dollars annually) in license and permit revenue deposited into the Wildlife Fund (Fund 7015). The combined revenue from falconry permits and raptor capture permits averaged \$3,245 per year during the FY 2016-FY 2019 period.

Detailed Analysis

The bill allows the use of certain owls¹ in the sport of falconry. Allowing the use of owls in falconry may result in an increase in license and permit revenue deposited into the Wildlife Fund (Fund 7015) used by the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) Division of Wildlife. However, because the number of individuals who practice falconry is small, any increase is likely to be limited to a few thousand dollars per year at most. The bill will not affect the revenues or expenditures of political subdivisions.

Under continuing law, a falconer must purchase a hunting license² and falconry permit. Additionally, a person wishing to capture a raptor for use in falconry must purchase a raptor capture permit. Fees for these licenses and permits are shown in the table on the following page. According to DNR, there were 102 active falconers in Ohio as of December 2020. Revenue from

¹ The bill allows owls from the taxonomic family Strigidae to be used in falconry. This family of owls includes all of Ohio's native owl species except the Barn Owl.

² Landowners hunting their own property are generally not required to have a hunting license. However, because there is no way to guarantee raptors will take game only on the landowner's land, it is plausible that anyone practicing falconry would obtain a hunting license.

falconry permits and raptor capture permits together averaged \$3,245 per year for the time period covering FY 2016-FY 2019.

Ohio Hunting License and Falconry Permits		
License/Permit	License/Permit Duration	Fee
Hunting License	Annual	\$19.00
	3-Year	\$54.08
	5-Year	\$90.22
	10-Year	\$180.44
	Lifetime	\$468.00
Falconry Permit	1-3 years	\$25 per year
Raptor Capture Permit	Per Raptor	\$15