

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**LEGISLATIVE BILL REVIEW FORM: 2016**

Bill Number: s.246 Name of Bill: Fish and wildlife; hunting; licenses; fees for minors

Agency/ Dept: Dept. Fish Wildlife Author of Bill Review: Commissioner Louis Porter

Date of Bill Review: 1/7/16 Related Bills and Key Players \_\_\_\_\_

Status of Bill: (check one):  Upon Introduction  As passed by 1<sup>st</sup> body  As passed by both

**Recommended Position:**

Support  Oppose  Remain Neutral  Support with modifications identified in #8 below

**Analysis of Bill**

1. **Summary of bill and issue it addresses.** This bill establishes a free hunting license for those under 17
2. **Is there a need for this bill?** No. Current license system works fine. Those 15 and under are currently free, those 16-17 pay \$8. This would be unlikely to increase participation significantly, but would require adjustments to the licensing system and would cost revenue. This \$8 fee is the subject of few if any constituent complaints.
3. **What are likely to be the fiscal and programmatic implications of this bill for this Department?** This change will cost the Department roughly \$60,000 a year. This money is used to match roughly 3 times as much federal funding.
4. **What might be the fiscal and programmatic implications of this bill for other departments in state government, and what is likely to be their perspective on it?** None
5. **What might be the fiscal and programmatic implications of this bill for others, and what is likely to be their perspective on it?** (for example, public, municipalities, organizations, business, regulated entities, etc)
6. **Other Stakeholders:**
  - 6.1 Who else is likely to support the proposal and why? Sen. Champion. Anti-hunting groups. See #7 below.
  - 6.2 Who else is likely to oppose the proposal and why?
7. **Rationale for recommendation:** *This is an unnecessary change to the license system. In addition, it could open a divisive discussion into whether there should be a minimum age for hunting. Currently it is left to parents.*

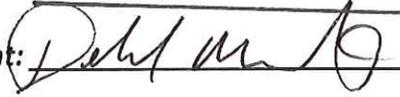
Please return this bill review as a Microsoft Word document to [Jahala.Dudley@vermont.gov](mailto:Jahala.Dudley@vermont.gov) & [Jessica.Mishaan@vermont.gov](mailto:Jessica.Mishaan@vermont.gov)

8. Specific modifications that would be needed to recommend support of this bill:

9. Will this bill create a new board or commission AND/OR add or remove appointees to an existing one? If so, which one and how many? No

 1/12/16

Secretary/Commissioner has reviewed this document:

 Date: 1-13-16