Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

PUBLISHED: 1/27/2026 3:21 PM **ORIGINAL**

Bill Number: SB461 **Patron:** Stuart
Bill Title: Marine Resources Commission; commercial electrofishing licenses.

Bill Summary: Prohibits the Marine Resources Commission from issuing any commercial electrofishing license to any person to take, harvest, or possess any species of fish by means of electrofishing, as defined in the bill, in the tidal rivers and streams of the Commonwealth.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No **Items Impacted:** N/A
Explanation: This bill involves the Marine Resources Commission (MRC); however, no budget action is required. See Fiscal Analysis section, below.

Fiscal Summary: It is anticipated that this bill may result in an indeterminate decrease in nongeneral fund revenue due to a loss of license revenue for commercial electrofishing licenses.

Fiscal Analysis: This impact statement is preliminary and will be updated as information is received. This legislation prohibits MRC from issuing any commercial electrofishing license to any person to take, harvest, or possess any species of fish by means of electrofishing in the tidal rivers and streams of Virginia. According to the agency, the commercial electrofishing license was established by the agency in 2021. MRC states that each year from 2021 to 2025, the agency has issued the license to all three individuals that have been eligible to purchase the license, at a cost of $100 each. The Commission estimates a loss of $300 in revenue each fiscal year; however, the exact amount is indeterminate.

Other: None.