



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Fiscal Note 2027 Biennium

Bill#/Title: **SB0238.01: Allow hunters to donate funds for archery equipment for disabled bowhunters**

Primary Sponsor: Janet Ellis Status: As Introduced

☐ Included in the Executive Budget ☒ Needs to be included in HB 2 ☐ Significant Local Gov Impact
☐ Significant Long-Term Impacts ☐ Technical Concerns ☒ Dedicated Revenue Form Attached

FISCAL SUMMARY

	<u>FY 2026 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2027 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2028 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2029 Difference</u>
Expenditures				
State Special Revenue (02)	\$33,648	\$84,121	\$84,121	\$84,121
Revenues				
State Special Revenue (02)	\$33,648	\$84,121	\$84,121	\$84,121
Net Impact	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
General Fund Balance				

Description of fiscal impact

SB 238 creates a Bowhunters with Disabilities program and will require the department to establish rules associated with regulating the payment of funds from the account and establishing guidelines for the donation of modified archery equipment purchased with funds from the Bowhunters with Disabilities account.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Assumptions

Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

1. This bill will allow a person who applies for or purchases a hunting license the option to donate \$1 or more to to the Bowhunters with Disabilities program .
2. The Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) currently has three programs funded by donations made during the purchasing process for a hunting license.
3. In 2024, an average of 15,932 people donated to these three programs, and the average donation was \$5.28 per person.
4. FWP assumes the same average number of people will choose to donate \$5.28 each to the Bowhunters with Disabilities Program, for annual revenue of \$84,121.
5. This bill is effective July 1, 2025. Based on the average percentage of license sales, FWP assumes revenue would be 40% of the annual \$84,121 in FY 2026, which is \$33,648
6. The department assumes this revenue estimate to be high, as it is uncertain if the same number of existing donors would donate to a new fund in addition to their donation to the existing three programs mentioned above.
7. The revenue received will be used to support bowhunters with disabilities.

Fiscal Analysis Table

Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

	<u>FY 2026</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2027</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2028</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2029</u> <u>Difference</u>
<u>Fiscal Impact</u>				
<u>Expenditures</u>				
Operating Expenses	\$33,648	\$84,121	\$84,121	\$84,121
TOTAL Expenditures	\$33,648	\$84,121	\$84,121	\$84,121
<u>Funding of Expenditures</u>				
State Special Revenue (02)	\$33,648	\$84,121	\$84,121	\$84,121
TOTAL Funding of Expenditures	\$33,648	\$84,121	\$84,121	\$84,121
<u>Revenues</u>				
State Special Revenue (02)	\$33,648	\$84,121	\$84,121	\$84,121
TOTAL Revenues	\$33,648	\$84,121	\$84,121	\$84,121
<u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures)</u>				
State Special Revenue (02)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Sponsor's Initials

Date

Budget Director's Initials

Date



Dedication of Revenue 2027 Biennium

17-1-507, MCA.

1. Are there persons or entities that benefit from this dedicated revenue that do not pay?

No

It is assumed that both non-disabled and disabled bowhunters would contribute toward the fund.

2. What special information or other advantages exist as a result of using a state special revenue fund that could not be obtained if the revenue were allocated to the general fund?

Yes

The state special revenue account ensures that revenues from the funding source are solely used for the designated purpose. In the general fund, they could be diverted to other state appropriations.

3. Is the source of revenue relevant to current use of the funds and adequate to fund the program activity that is intended?

Yes

The funding source does have a connection to the designated needs, however the total need is unknown and there for a determination of sufficiency cannot be made.

4. Does the need for this state special revenue provision still exist?

Yes

Disabled bowhunter would benefit from the funding, and may not otherwise be able to hunt without specialized equipment.

5. Does the dedicated revenue affect the legislature's ability to scrutinize budgets, control expenditures, or establish priorities for state spending?

No

The fund would show the revenue and expenses of the program in the most transparent way.

6. Does the dedicated revenue fulfill a continuing, legislatively recognized need?

Yes

IF SB 238 is passed, yes.

7. How does the dedicated revenue provision result in accounting/auditing efficiencies or inefficiencies in your agency? Also, if the program/activity were general funded, could you adequately account for the program/activity?

Yes

The state special revenue account ensures that revenues from the funding source are solely used for the designated purpose. In the general fund, they could be diverted to other state appropriations.