

SF2735 - 0 - Criminal & Civil Pen. for Abandoned Boats Est.

Chief Author: **Judy Seeberger**
 Committee: **Environment, Climate, And Legacy**
 Date Completed: **4/3/2025 10:55:21 AM**
 Lead Agency: **Natural Resources Dept**
 Other Agencies:
 Corrections Dept Sentencing Guidelines Comm
 Supreme Court

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures	X	
Fee/Departmental Earnings		X
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology		X
Local Fiscal Impact	X	

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative.
 Reductions shown in the parentheses.

State Cost (Savings)		Biennium		Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Natural Resources Dept					
General Fund	-	262	262	262	262
Restrict Misc Special Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
State Total					
General Fund	-	262	262	262	262
Restrict Misc Special Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	262	262	262	262
Biennial Total			524		524

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)		Biennium		Biennium	
	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Natural Resources Dept					
General Fund	-	1	1	1	1
Restrict Misc Special Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	1	1	1	1

Lead LBO Analyst's Comment

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

LBO Signature: Jim Carlson **Date:** 4/3/2025 10:55:21 AM
Phone: 651-284-6540 **Email:** jim.carlson@lbo.mn.gov

State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions are shown in parentheses.

*Transfers In/Out and Absorbed Costs are only displayed when reported.

State Cost (Savings) = 1-2		Biennium		Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Natural Resources Dept					
General Fund	-	262	262	262	262
Restrict Misc Special Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	262	262	262	262
Biennial Total			524		524
1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*					
Natural Resources Dept					
General Fund	-	262	262	262	262
Restrict Misc Special Revenue	-	50	50	50	50
Total	-	312	312	312	312
Biennial Total			624		624
2 - Revenues, Transfers In*					
Natural Resources Dept					
General Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Restrict Misc Special Revenue	-	50	50	50	50
Total	-	50	50	50	50
Biennial Total			100		100

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 Committee: **Environment, Climate, And Legacy**
 Date Completed: **4/3/2025 10:55:21 AM**
 Agency: **Natural Resources Dept**

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures	X	
Fee/Departmental Earnings		X
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology		X
Local Fiscal Impact	X	

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State Cost (Savings)		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
General Fund	-	262	262	262	262	262
Restrict Misc Special Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	262	262	262	262	262
Biennial Total			524	524		524

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)		Biennium			Biennium	
		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
General Fund	-	1	1	1	1	1
Restrict Misc Special Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	1	1	1	1	1

LBO Analyst's Comment

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

LBO Signature: Jim Carlson **Date:** 4/3/2025 10:54:30 AM
Phone: 651-284-6540 **Email:** jim.carlson@lbo.mn.gov

State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

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State Cost (Savings) = 1-2		Biennium		Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
General Fund	-	262	262	262	262
Restrict Misc Special Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	262	262	262	262
Biennial Total			524		524
1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*					
General Fund	-	262	262	262	262
Restrict Misc Special Revenue	-	50	50	50	50
Total	-	312	312	312	312
Biennial Total			624		624
2 - Revenues, Transfers In*					
General Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Restrict Misc Special Revenue	-	50	50	50	50
Total	-	50	50	50	50
Biennial Total			100		100

Bill Description

This bill would transfer responsibility of investigating, notification, and removal of abandoned watercraft on or adjacent to the public waters of the state to Department of Natural Resources from County Sheriff's offices. It would also require a formal notification process to abandoned boat registered owners, civil and criminal penalties for failing to comply, seizure and disposal of abandoned boats, restitution sought from registered owners, and revocation of recreational vehicles registrations, fishing and hunting licenses, and any other natural resource related licenses and registrations.

Assumptions

The number of watercraft that are abandoned on or adjacent to public waters varies year by year and often go unreported. Estimates are approximately 40 abandoned watercraft statewide total annually. This bill would require Conservation officers to locate, investigate, tag, and notify abandon boat owners of their non-compliance with state law.

Officers would need to seize and either remove watercraft themselves, or contract with private companies to remove and dispose of them. Officers would pursue recovery and removal costs as laid out in the bill as well as criminal and civil penalties. Average costs for recovery and disposal are estimated to be \$1,250 per incident, which is recognized in this fiscal note as both an expenditure and a revenue.

Many of these watercrafts have identification removed from them prior to abandonment making it impossible to determine ownership.

Officers would need to revoke DNR licenses and registrations until recovery and removal costs have been obtain from registered owners and then reinstate them after costs have been reimbursed.

Expenditure and/or Revenue Formula

40 (abandoned watercraft) x 45 hours (Officer investigation, notification, recovery, restitution, and enforcement efforts) = 1,800 hours staff time

40 (incidents) x 6 hours (DNR time to revoke licenses and registrations, notify owners, recover restitution, and reinstate licenses and registration upon resolution) = 240 hours of staff time

1 FTE = \$262,000 for Conservation Officers, which includes salary and support costs.

\$1,250 (average for recovery and disposal) x 40 incidents = \$50,000

Long-Term Fiscal Considerations

Costs would be ongoing.

Local Fiscal Impact

Sheriff's offices no longer have the responsibility for investigating, recovering, and disposing of these watercrafts.

References/Sources

N/A

Agency Contact: Lt. Colonel Robert Gorecki (651) 259-5045

Agency Fiscal Note Coordinator Signature: Tyler Teggatz

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Date: 4/3/2025 9:00:23 AM

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Chief Author: **Judy Seeberger**
 Committee: **Environment, Climate, And Legacy**
 Date Completed: **4/3/2025 10:55:21 AM**
 Agency: **Corrections Dept**

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures		X
Fee/Departmental Earnings		X
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology		X
Local Fiscal Impact		X

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative.
 Reductions shown in the parentheses.

State Cost (Savings)		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)		Biennium			Biennium	
		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total		-	-	-	-	-

LBO Analyst's Comment

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

LBO Signature: Susan Nelson **Date:** 3/25/2025 1:08:28 PM
Phone: 651-296-6054 **Email:** susan.nelson@lbo.mn.gov

State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions are shown in parentheses.

*Transfers In/Out and Absorbed Costs are only displayed when reported.

State Cost (Savings) = 1-2		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-
1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*						
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-
2 - Revenues, Transfers In*						
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-

Bill Description

This bill creates new requirements related to the tagging of a boat unlawfully located on waters of this state or unlawfully located on property adjacent to waters of this state in certain circumstances. A new criminal penalty is created to enforce the new requirements at the misdemeanor level. Related changes in statute are also created and amended.

Assumptions

The Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission (MSGC) projects no fiscal impact to state correctional resources as a result of this legislation.

Expenditure and/or Revenue Formula

N/A

Long-Term Fiscal Considerations

N/A

Local Fiscal Impact

Unknown

References/Sources

Department of Corrections staff

MSGC

Agency Contact:

Agency Fiscal Note Coordinator Signature: Mark Besonen

Date: 3/25/2025 12:45:07 PM

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SF2735 - 0 - Criminal & Civil Pen. for Abandoned Boats Est.

Chief Author: **Judy Seeberger**
 Committee: **Environment, Climate, And Legacy**
 Date Completed: **4/3/2025 10:55:21 AM**
 Agency: **Sentencing Guidelines Comm**

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures		X
Fee/Departmental Earnings		X
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology		X
Local Fiscal Impact		X

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 Reductions shown in the parentheses.

State Cost (Savings)	Biennium			Biennium	
	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Dollars in Thousands					
Total	-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total			-		-

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)	Biennium			Biennium	
	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total	-	-	-	-	-

LBO Analyst's Comment

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

LBO Signature: Susan Nelson **Date:** 3/25/2025 7:39:04 AM
Phone: 651-296-6054 **Email:** susan.nelson@lbo.mn.gov

State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative. Reductions are shown in parentheses.

*Transfers In/Out and Absorbed Costs are only displayed when reported.

State Cost (Savings) = 1-2		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-
1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*						
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-
2 - Revenues, Transfers In*						
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-

Bill Description

This bill relates to natural resources and requires proper removal and disposal of abandoned boats. The bill provides for civil penalties and a misdemeanor under newly codified Minn. Stat. § 86B.109 (Abandoned Boats).

Assumptions

It is assumed that the new misdemeanor is effective August 1, 2025, and applies to crimes committed on or after that date. It is assumed that, because there are no new felonies, there will be no impact on state correctional resources.

Expenditure and/or Revenue Formula**Long-Term Fiscal Considerations**

None.

Local Fiscal Impact

Unknown.

References/Sources**Agency Contact:**

Agency Fiscal Note Coordinator Signature: Jill Payne

Phone: 651-757-1725

Date: 3/25/2025 7:34:31 AM

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SF2735 - 0 - Criminal & Civil Pen. for Abandoned Boats Est.

Chief Author: **Judy Seeberger**
 Committee: **Environment, Climate, And Legacy**
 Date Completed: **4/3/2025 10:55:21 AM**
 Agency: **Supreme Court**

State Fiscal Impact	Yes	No
Expenditures		X
Fee/Departmental Earnings		X
Tax Revenue		X
Information Technology		X
Local Fiscal Impact		X

This table shows direct impact to state government only. Local government impact, if any, is discussed in the narrative.
 Reductions shown in the parentheses.

State Cost (Savings)	Biennium			Biennium	
	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Dollars in Thousands					
Total	-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total			-		-

Full Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)	Biennium			Biennium	
	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total	-	-	-	-	-

LBO Analyst's Comment

I have reviewed this fiscal note for reasonableness of content and consistency with the LBO's Uniform Standards and Procedures.

LBO Signature: Susan Nelson **Date:** 3/29/2025 6:32:34 PM
Phone: 651-296-6054 **Email:** susan.nelson@lbo.mn.gov

State Cost (Savings) Calculation Details

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State Cost (Savings) = 1-2		Biennium			Biennium	
Dollars in Thousands		FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	FY2029
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-
1 - Expenditures, Absorbed Costs*, Transfers Out*						
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-
2 - Revenues, Transfers In*						
Total		-	-	-	-	-
Biennial Total				-		-

Bill Description

HF2580-0 ("the bill") creates a new statute, section 86B.109, authorizing a peace officer or employee designated by the commissioner of natural resources to tag a boat unlawfully located on the water or unlawfully located on property adjacent to water if the boat appears inoperative, in immediate danger of sinking, or unmoored and unattended; requiring notice to the registered owner; making it a misdemeanor for the registered owner to knowingly fail to remedy the condition that led to tagging; making the owner liable to the DNR for costs incurred in enforcing the law and subject to a civil penalty of not less than 2 times or more than 5 times the costs incurred; and subjecting an abandoned boat to seizure and forfeiture under section 97A.223. The bill also makes conforming amendments to section 97A.223 governing seizure and forfeiture; and to section 97A.421 authorizing DNR license and registration restrictions for conviction under section 86B.109.

Assumptions

According to the Department of Natural Resources, it is assumed there will be 40 boats per year that are subject to provisions of this bill. It is assumed that criminal and civil case filings may increase based on the provisions of this bill, but any increase case filings is not anticipated to be significant and it is assumed the judicial branch will absorb any increase.

Expenditure and/or Revenue Formula

The bill is not anticipated to have a significant fiscal impact on the judicial branch.

Long-Term Fiscal Considerations

None

Local Fiscal Impact**References/Sources****Agency Contact:**

Agency Fiscal Note Coordinator Signature: Callie Lehman

Phone: 651-297-7579

Date: 3/28/2025 2:51:17 PM

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