



## HB19-1026

**SHORT TITLE:** Parks and Wildlife Violations of Law

**LONG TITLE:** Concerning fines assessed for violation of laws administered by the division of Parks and Wildlife.

**SPONSORS:** Representatives Catlin and McCluskie/Senators Coram and Donovan

**COMMITTEES:** House Rural Affairs & Agriculture Committee

**PURPOSE OF THE BILL:** In conjunction with legislation passed in 2018, to increase funding for the division of Parks and Wildlife by changing the disposition of moneys received from fines and by authorizing increases in certain fines for violations. In addition, it is believed that increasing the fines will deter violation of rules relating to the use of CPW resources.

**PROPONENTS:** Division of Parks and Wildlife

**POTENTIAL STAKEHOLDERS:** Hunters, anglers, and other users of state parks, legislature, proponents of other programs supported by General Fund

**BACKGROUND:** Current law requires money from a fine issued by a parks and wildlife ))) to be distributed half to the General Fund and half to CPW program related to the violation; fines issued by other peace officers are split between CPW and the local government employing the peace officer.

**Is this bill necessary this year?** There is no deadline to be met, but to fulfill the goal of stable funding for the division and its programs it should be brought forward this year

**How does the bill change current law?** This bill requires all fine money from citations for violations issued by CPW to go to CPW (rather than shared with the General Fund) and retains the split between CPW and local governments employing the peace officer issuing the citation.

**Does the bill affect the prior appropriations system?** No

**How is the bill implemented?** There will likely be a rulemaking at CPW to implement the changes authorized by the bill once adopted.

**Practical considerations:** Fines have not been increased for 15 years. Is a 100% increase (in many cases) too much or simply adequate to achieve the goals of the bill.

**Fiscal Impact:** No fiscal impact statement has been issued to date.