

# Fiscal Analysis

## DUCKS UNLIMITED FUND-RAISING PLATE



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**Bill/Sponsor**                      **SENATE BILL 193 as passed the Senate, Sen. Bruce Patterson**

**House Committee**                Transportation

**Analysis**                              **Summary**

The bill would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to require the Michigan Secretary of State to develop and issue a "Ducks Unlimited" fund-raising license plate, and matching collector plate. The bill would also create a "Ducks Unlimited" fund within the state treasury. Funds from \$25 fund-raising donations would be credited to the Ducks Unlimited Fund. The bill would require the state treasurer to disburse money in the fund, on a quarterly basis, to the Michigan Chapter of Ducks Unlimited for expenditure to *"protect, enhance, restore, manage, and acquire wetlands and associated uplands in this state."*

The Ducks Unlimited website, <http://www.ducks.org/index.asp> describes the organization as *"a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving wetland habitat for waterfowl with attendant benefits to other wildlife and people."* The website further indicates that the organization was incorporated on January 29, 1937.

**Fiscal Impact**

The Michigan Department of State estimates that initial start-up costs for a new fund-raising plate are approximately \$15,000. These costs would not be recovered under the current fund-raising plate program. However, Senate Bill 785, to which SB 193 is tie-barred, would require a \$15,000 start-up fee from the sponsoring organization. This start-up fee would cover the initial state development and administrative costs of the new plate.

For a more detailed analysis of the fund-raising plate program, see the House Fiscal Agency analysis of Senate Bill 785.

**Analyst(s)**  
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**FLOOR ANALYSIS - 12/17/03**