



FISCAL NOTE

House Bill 297

Committee: Ports, Waterways and Intermodal Transit Sponsor: Representative Craig Lipscomb

Analyst: Jennifer Farish

Date: 04/17/2023

House Bill 297 as introduced would codify the existing practices of the State Health Officer, the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) regarding statewide fish consumption advisories and fish tissue monitoring. This bill would further require ADEM to post signage at public boat ramps and fishing areas adjacent to state waters when there is an active fish consumption advisory, which would increase the obligations of ADEM by (1) an estimated \$115,000 to replace signage, and (2) an additional undetermined amount to hire personnel to place and monitor signage to ensure compliance of National Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit holders with the provisions of this bill.

In addition, this bill would also increase the administrative obligations of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to notify fishing licensees that purchase their licenses electronically about active fish consumption advisories.