

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DHFS 9/13/2005

LRB Number	05-3355/1	Introduction Number	SB-295	Estimate Type	Original
Subject					
GPS tracking for certain sex offenders					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, DHFS has the responsibility for the treatment of individuals who have been considered to be Sexually Violent Persons (SVPs) as defined under ch. 980. The Supervised Release program provides treatment to SVPs who have been released by the court under the supervision of the Department. If the court orders an SVP placed on supervised release, DHFS is required to find a placement in the community, usually in the county in which the person lived at the time of the sexually violent offense. DHFS and the county in which the person is to be placed must then prepare a plan for treatment and supervision of the person upon release. In developing the plan, DHFS considers the proximity of the proposed residence to the homes of certain other sex offenders and entities such as schools, parks, and licensed child care facilities. More importantly, DHFS considers the person's offense pattern and victim profile when considering a residential placement in the community. Within 60 days after the court's determination that supervised release is appropriate, DHFS and the county must submit the plan to the court for its approval.

In addition, under ch. 971, DHFS has the responsibility for the treatment of individuals who have been found not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect. The Conditional Release program provides treatment to those individuals who have been either directly placed on conditional release by the court or conditionally released from mental health institutions. Individuals on conditional release live in the community, generally in independent or supported living arrangements.

Both programs are state-funded community-based programs administered by private and public agencies under the supervision of the Department.

Under this bill, DHFS would be required to track individuals on Supervised Release or Conditional Release who have committed a first or second degree sexual assault of a child or repeated sexual assault of a child using a global positioning system (GPS) tracking device. Currently, there are 18 SVPs on supervised release. It is estimated that 16 SVPs will be required to wear a GPS tracking device. In addition, it is estimated that a minimum of 4 SVPs will be placed on supervised release annually who will also require GPS monitoring. The conditional release program currently has 282 clients. It is estimated that 12 clients currently on conditional release will be required to wear a GPS tracking device. Also, it is estimated that an additional 3 clients will be placed on conditional release annually requiring GPS monitoring. Under this bill, DHFS would have a minimum average daily population (ADP) of 35 individuals requiring GPS tracking in FY06. In subsequent years, the ADP would most likely increase by a minimum of 7 clients each year.

It is likely the Department would contract with the Department of Corrections (DOC) for these monitoring services. The cost of contracting with DOC for these monitoring services ranges between \$70,300 and \$127,800 GPR for FY06 depending on the type of GPS system used. It is estimated costs for the GPS monitoring system will rise between \$10,200 and \$25,500 GPR annually thereafter. In addition to the costs mentioned, DHFS will also contract with DOC for staff costs to monitor DHFS clients requiring GPS monitoring. Staff costs are unknown at this time.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications