

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DNR 2/27/2008

LRB Number	07-4165/1	Introduction Number	SB-529	Estimate Type	Original
Description The minimum age for hunting and possessing a firearm, age specific restrictions for hunting and on possessing a firearm while hunting, requirements for obtaining a hunting certificate of accomplishment, establishing a hunting mentorship program, and granting rule-making authority					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

BILL SUMMARY: This bill will allow anyone age 10 or older to obtain an approval authorizing hunting and to hunt without first needing to be certified in hunter education, with the condition that any such hunter may only hunt under a mentorship program created under this bill. This proposal would also allow DNR to establish an age lower than 10 to hunt with a mentor, if DNR determines it will not present a safety risk based on current studies and data. Currently, no one can hunt in Wisconsin under the age of 12, unless part of the DNR's Learn-To-Hunt Program. The bill establishes several requirements specific to safety issues for persons age 10 and older to participate in hunting without the mandatory requirement to first complete hunter education. Those requirements are:

- Parental discretion on whether or not their child age 10 or 11 may hunt
- An adult must accompany the mentored hunter during the hunt
- The hunter must be within arms reach of the mentor at all times
- The adult mentor must be a licensed hunter
- Only one firearm, bow or crossbow allowed between the adult and youth hunter

Further this bill eliminates the requirement of hunter education for the mentored hunter in exchange for the special stipulations. The bill also allows a youth under age 12 to possess a firearm for purposes of target practice, but only if accompanied by a parent or guardian or person 18 or older designated by the parent or guardian. In addition, this bill: reduces the minimum age to apply for a Class A bear license or preference points to age 10; allows the DNR to establish an age less than age 12 to obtain a dog training or dog trial license issued; and requires the DNR to file a report with the Legislature in 2010 that describes the effects of this bill on recruitment of new hunters.

Fiscal Estimate:

Revenues

Legal Hunting Age - The Department anticipates there will be an increase in revenue to the Fish and Wildlife Account of the Conservation Fund associated with creating a mentored hunting age for age 10 and older. The Department assumes that an additional 9,000 licenses per year would be sold at a cost of \$20 to resident hunters aged 10 and older, equaling \$180,000 (9,000 x \$20). Additionally, the Department assumes that an additional 200 licenses per year would be sold at a cost of \$160 to nonresident hunters aged 10 and older, equaling \$32,000 (200 x \$160 maximum fee). Therefore the Department estimates the total revenue increase resulting from the bill to be \$212,000 annually (\$180,000 + \$32,000).

Hunter Education Courses - The Department estimates that the number of students -- both traditional students and mentors -- entering hunter education courses will increase by 2,000 as a result of this bill. Hunter education course fees are \$10 per student, and instructors are allowed to keep up to \$5 per student to offset their expenses. Therefore the Department assumes that hunter education revenues deposited to the safety and education segregated account will increase by \$10,000 annually (2,000 x \$10/2).

Total Increases in Revenues: \$222,000 (\$212,000 + \$10,000).

Anticipated expenditures resulting from this bill include:

Additional student materials for increased participation in hunter education courses at \$10 per student. Total \$20,000 (2,000 x \$10).

With the increase in hunters, there is the potential for an increase in hunting related complaints and violations for not complying with the new mentorship requirements. The Department assumes it will have some modest increase in workload, but that the increase can be handled as part of the current enforcement

of hunting regulations.

Total Increases in Costs: \$20,000

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

None

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2007 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 07-4165/1		Introduction Number SB-529	
Description The minimum age for hunting and possessing a firearm, age specific restrictions for hunting and on possessing a firearm while hunting, requirements for obtaining a hunting certificate of accomplishment, establishing a hunting mentorship program, and granting rule-making authority			
I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect):			
II. Annualized Costs:		Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:	
		Increased Costs	Decreased Costs
A. State Costs by Category			
	State Operations - Salaries and Fringes	\$	\$
	(FTE Position Changes)		
	State Operations - Other Costs	20,000	
	Local Assistance		
	Aids to Individuals or Organizations		
	TOTAL State Costs by Category	\$20,000	\$
B. State Costs by Source of Funds			
	GPR		
	FED		
	PRO/PRS		
	SEG/SEG-S	20,000	
III. State Revenues - Complete this only when proposal will increase or decrease state revenues (e.g., tax increase, decrease in license fee, etc.)			
		Increased Rev	Decreased Rev
	GPR Taxes	\$	\$
	GPR Earned		
	FED		
	PRO/PRS		
	SEG/SEG-S	222,000	
	TOTAL State Revenues	\$222,000	\$
NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT			
		State	Local
	NET CHANGE IN COSTS	\$20,000	\$
	NET CHANGE IN REVENUE	\$222,000	\$
Agency/Prepared By		Authorized Signature	Date
DNR/ Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794		Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794	2/27/2008