

Fiscal Estimate - 2011 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 11-3601/1	Introduction Number SB-338
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Description
 Waiving fees for certain professional and occupational licenses issued to veterans

Fiscal Effect

State:

- No State Fiscal Effect
- Indeterminate
 - Increase Existing Appropriations
 - Decrease Existing Appropriations
 - Create New Appropriations
- Increase Existing Revenues
- Decrease Existing Revenues
- Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget
 - Yes No
- Decrease Costs

Local:

- No Local Government Costs
- Indeterminate
- 1. Increase Costs
 - Permissive Mandatory
- 2. Decrease Costs
 - Permissive Mandatory
- 3. Increase Revenue
 - Permissive Mandatory
- 4. Decrease Revenue
 - Permissive Mandatory
- 5. Types of Local Government Units Affected
 - Towns Village Cities
 - Counties Others
 - School Districts WTCS Districts

Fund Sources Affected	Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations
<input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS	

Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date
DNR/ Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794	Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794	1/9/2012

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DNR 1/9/2012

LRB Number	11-3601/1	Introduction Number	SB-338	Estimate Type	Original
Description					
Waiving fees for certain professional and occupational licenses issued to veterans					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The bill provides fee exemptions for certain qualified veterans for several licenses or permits issued by the Department. The bill affects many bureaus within the Department, including the Bureaus of Science Services, Customer and Outreach Services, Waste and Materials Management, and Drinking Water & Groundwater.

Assumptions

A. Bureau of Science Services

The bill provides fee exemptions for individuals seeking operator certification for a septage business, as a solid waste incinerator operator, as a solid waste landfill operator, as a water supply operator or as a wastewater operator.

There are currently 465 licensed septage businesses, 39 solid waste incinerator operators, 383 solid waste landfill operators, and over 5,800 certified water supply and wastewater operators, and the Bureau collects approximately \$112,900 in fees annually for certifying and licensing these individuals.

The Bureau would experience an ongoing reduction in these revenues depending upon the number of individuals that would qualify as a resident, honorably discharged veteran. According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, there are approximately 407,600 veterans that reside in the State of Wisconsin. However, the Bureau currently has no way of determining the number of veterans that are currently certified as a septage business, a solid waste incinerator operator, a water supply operator, or a wastewater operator or that are planning to apply for recertification or to obtain certification for the very first time. Therefore, the Department categorizes the revenue loss associated with this exemption as indeterminate. It should be noted however, that these operators tend to be male and over 40 years old, so there is the potential for a significant number of individuals that could claim the exemption.

The current application forms for exams, licenses and renewals for these types of certifications do not include any information regarding an applicant's status as a veteran; therefore, the Bureau would incur one-time salary/fringe costs of \$2,900, based upon 80 hours of staff time to update forms, templates and websites (80 x \$36.62/hr. salary and fringe).

B. Bureau of Customer & Outreach Services

The proposed bill identifies several Chapter 29 professional/occupational licenses to which a resident, honorably discharged veteran could qualify for a fee waiver. Those licenses are listed below

1. Fur Dealer (s. 29.501)
2. Wholesale Fish Dealer (s. 29.502)
3. Taxidermist [s. 29.506 (2)]
4. Bait Dealer (29.509)
5. Guide (s. 29.512)
6. Sport trolling (s. 29.514)
7. Commercial fishing (29.519)
8. Net (s. 29.523)
9. Slat net (s. 29.526)
10. Trammel net (s. 29.529)
11. Set or bank pole (s. 29.531)
12. Clamming (s. 29.537)
13. Fish farm (s. 29.733)
14. Fish importation (s. 29.735)

15. Fish stocking (s. 29.736)
16. Wild rice dealer [s. 29.607(4)(b)]
17. Wild Ginseng dealer [s. 29.611(7)]

The Department would experience an ongoing loss of fee revenues depending upon the number of individuals that are applying for these licenses that would qualify as a resident, honorably discharged veteran. Since the Department currently has no way of determining the number of individuals that would qualify for the exemption, it categorizes the revenue loss as indeterminate.

The Bureau would also incur minor, one-time costs to allow for a person to report their veteran's status and thus claim the exemption. Those costs are considered indeterminate.

C. Bureau of Waste & Materials Management

The bill provides license fee exemptions for hazardous waste transportation (s. 291.23) and infectious waste transportation [s. 299.51 (3)(c)]. There are currently 202 licensed Hazardous Waste Transporters, who are required to pay an annual license fee of \$400, and 32 licensed Infectious Waste Transporters, who are required to pay an annual license fee of \$275, plus a \$22 per truck fee after the first truck.

The Department would experience an ongoing loss of fee revenues depending upon the number of individuals applying for these licenses that qualify as a resident, honorably discharged veteran. Since the Department currently has no way of determining the number of individuals that would qualify for the exemption, it categorizes the revenue loss as indeterminate. However, one factor that could limit the amount of revenue that would be lost is the provision in the bill that limits the exemption to individuals rather than businesses or other entities.

Neither application form currently requires information on an individual's status as a veteran. Therefore, the Bureau would incur minimal, one-time costs to update these forms.

D. Bureau of Drinking Water & Groundwater

The bill provides license fee exemptions for well drillers, pump installers and rig operators. The Bureau issues less than 50 licenses per year, therefore the ongoing revenue loss associated with providing a fee exemption for a resident, honorably discharged veteran is expected to be minimal. The Bureau would also incur minimal one-time costs for updating its application forms for these licenses.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2011 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

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Description Waiving fees for certain professional and occupational licenses issued to veterans			
I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect): One time costs of \$2,900 for the Bureau of Science Services to revise forms.			
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		
	Local Assistance		
	Aids to Individuals or Organizations		
	TOTAL State Costs by Category	\$	\$
B. State Costs by Source of Funds			
	GPR		
	FED		
	PRO/PRS		
	SEG/SEG-S		
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		
	TOTAL State Revenues	\$	\$
NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT			
		<u>State</u>	<u>Local</u>
NET CHANGE IN COSTS		\$	\$
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE		\$	\$
Agency/Prepared By		Authorized Signature	
DNR/ Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794		Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794	
		Date	
		1/9/2012	