

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DVA 11/25/2011

LRB Number	11-2357/2	Introduction Number	AB-0429	Estimate Type	Original
Description Waiving fees for certain professional and occupational licenses issued to veterans					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, many state agencies and boards (licensing agencies) regulate certain professions and occupations by issuing licenses, permits, or other credentials.

This bill will require the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) to establish and maintain a program under which licensing agencies shall verify whether an applicant is eligible for a fee waiver for the issuance of a license. To be eligible for the fee waiver, veterans must meet several criteria including:

- Wisconsin resident before entering "active duty". Was a resident of Wisconsin at the time of entry or reentry into active duty; or, his or her selective service local board, if any, and home of record at the time of entry or reentry into active service as shown on the veteran's report of separation from the U.S. Armed forces for a qualifying period were in Wisconsin, or;
- Moved to Wisconsin. Has been a resident of this state for any consecutive 12-month period after entry or reentry into service and before the date of his/her application
- Have been honorably discharged from the U.S. armed forces
- May not have previously received a fee waiver for any type of license.

Based on current data, it is estimated that there are approximately 407,600+ veterans in Wisconsin. However, data is not readily available to estimate under the provisions of this bill; the number of individuals that would benefit from this bill.

As, the departments role is limited to informing the public and certifying the veterans eligibility of the fee waiver program; there may be a small initial wave of applications, but then a minimal increase that can be absorbed within the agency budget.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications