

Fiscal Estimate - 2013 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 13-2568/2	Introduction Number AB-0518	
Description Awards for the victims of crimes and making an appropriation		
Fiscal Effect		
State: <input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs		
Local: <input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory		
5. Types of Local Government Units Affected <input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities <input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts		
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS 20.455(5)(b)		
Agency/Prepared By DOJ/ Mark Rinehart (608) 264-9463	Authorized Signature Mark Rinehart (608) 264-9463	Date 1/9/2014

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DOJ 1/9/2014

LRB Number	13-2568/2	Introduction Number	AB-0518	Estimate Type	Original
Description Awards for the victims of crimes and making an appropriation					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The Department of Justice Office of Crime Victim Services administers Wisconsin's Crime Victim Compensation (CVC) program, pursuant to Chapter 949 of the state statutes. The CVC program compensates certain victims, and dependents of certain victims who die, for the costs of medical treatment (including mental health treatment), lost wages, funeral/burial expenses, and replacement costs of clothing or bedding held for evidentiary purposes resulting from the crime. The maximum compensation award for any one injury or death is \$40,000, plus another \$2,000 for burial expenses. The CVC program is a "payer of last resort", meaning it only covers expenses remaining after all other payment sources, such as insurance, worker's compensation, unemployment compensation, etc., have been exhausted. The statute mandates compensation for all qualifying economic losses incurred up to the maximum.

Generally, in order to qualify for a compensation award, a victim must report an eligible crime to the police within 5 days of its occurrence and must make an application to the program within 1 year after the crime. For several sex related crimes, Assembly Bill 518 extends the application period from 1 year to any time during which the crime may be prosecuted. The sex related crimes covered by AB 518 range from Class A misdemeanors to Class A felonies. A misdemeanor may be prosecuted within 3 years of the act. Some Class A felonies, including ss. 948.02 & 948.025 which are covered by AB 518, may be commenced at any time. Other felonies, including ss. 948.05, 948.051, & 948.06 which are covered by AB 518, may be commenced until the victim reaches the age of 45.

The department assumes that extending the application period for several sex related crimes will result in an annual increase in the number of qualifying applicants and in an annual increase in the total amount of compensation awards. However, the department is not aware of a reliable way to accurately predict how many more qualifying applications it will receive or the amount of reimbursement it may pay out to those victims under the provisions of AB 518. The bill does increase DOJ's appropriation for awards to victims of crime by \$50,000/year.

If enacted, the changes under the bill relating to creating and determining long-term and differing application periods will increase the costs associated with administering the crime victim compensation program. The bill does not provide resources for this purpose. If the increase in administrative costs is significant, DOJ will need additional resources dedicated for this purpose.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications