



## Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DOJ 10/2/01

|   |           |                     |        |               |          |
|---|-----------|---------------------|--------|---------------|----------|
| LRB Number  | 01-3567/2 | Introduction Number | AB-517 | Estimate Type | Original |
| <b>Subject</b>  |           |                     |        |               |          |
| Prohibition against persons with criminal history from purchasing hunting approvals |           |                     |        |               |          |

### Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

**BACKGROUND:** This fiscal estimate makes certain assumptions regarding the implementation of firearm restriction record searches required for all firearms hunting licenses issued by the Department of Natural Resources pursuant to 2001 Assembly Bill 517. Those assumptions are as follows:

- The firearms restriction records search is not an instant search and the search will not result in any delay in the issuance of the hunting license.
- The Federal Bureau of Investigation will allow use of the Interstate Identification Index for the purpose of firearms possession.
- Each application or renewal of a firearms hunting license (estimated at 760,000 annually) will require a new firearm restriction record search to be conducted. As the information in databases searched for firearm restriction record searches is constantly being updated, information changes constantly, making previous searches unreliable. If data regarding prior denials or revocations is to be maintained, it will be maintained by the Department of Natural Resources.
- The Department of Natural Resources will transmit information necessary to conduct such a search to the Department of Justice either daily or on a per transaction basis.
- The Department of Justice will transmit information to the Department of Natural Resources regarding any person applying for a firearms hunting license when that person is prohibited from possessing a firearm, to allow for revocation or denial of such hunting license.
- Any appeal process regarding the revocation or denial of a firearms hunting license is the responsibility of the Department of Natural Resources. The Department of Justice will assist in the verification of the identity of the applicant, including fingerprint comparisons where required.

#### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE RESPONSIBILITIES:

**INFORMATION LINK:** The Department of Justice will work with the Department of Natural Resources, or their chosen vendor, to develop and maintain an information link between the agencies to allow for transmission of applicant information and information regarding persons prohibited from possessing firearms between the agencies.

The Department of Justice will need to develop an application similar to that currently used by the Handgun Hotline, but perhaps not using the National Instant Checks System (NICS). Currently, NICS can only be used for firearms transactions, not for licensing purposes. The information received from the Department of Natural Resources will automatically generate inquiries against all required databases, and only require operator intervention when information exists in those databases that may result in non-approval. Intervention is currently necessary in 48% of those transactions launched by the Handgun Hotline.

Once intervention is complete, the application will automatically forward information to the Department of Natural Resources only in those cases when the person applying for/issued a firearms hunting license is prohibited from possessing a firearm. This percentage for handgun transfers is currently 1.4%. However, this number is expected to be greater for firearms hunting licenses, at least temporarily. Many persons who may be prohibited may not have purchased the firearm, or purchased prior the time firearm restriction record searches have been required.

Also included is the cost of additional hardware to the existing TIME System, through which firearm restriction record searches are run. Without this upgrade, these 760,000 searches, each generating multiple transactions and responses, could significantly effect the efficiency of the TIME System, which was designed to provide information for law enforcement in tactical situations. This primary purpose cannot be negatively affected by non-law enforcement use.

Estimated cost for contract programming to complete: \$200,000.00

Estimated cost for TIME System hardware upgrade: \$ 20,000.00

**STAFF REQUIREMENTS:** The Handgun Hotline currently conducts around 35,000 firearm restriction record searches annually. Unit staffing currently stands at six operators and a supervisor, and is available Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M., and Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

The planned new application would not require the information received from the Department of Natural Resources to be entered by staff, but would automatically populate the required data fields and generate

inquiries. Staff would only need to deal with those responses that generate a record that contains a potential disqualifier. With a tightening of search parameters, it is believed that the current instant approval rate of 52% can be increased, allowing staff only to deal with significant possible hits. An increase in instant approvals to 80% would still result in operator interventions in 152,000 inquiries. This significant increase cannot be handled by existing staff without severely impacting the normal business of the Handgun Hotline, which operates under time limitations specified in s175.35 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

It is felt that six new operators, working Monday through Friday during routine business hours would be sufficient to handle the increased workload. These hours of work are necessary as those agencies with which follow-up must be conducted; clerks of court, prosecutors, police record sections and other criminal history repositories are normally staffed only during standard business hours. Based on current wages, salary and benefits for each Handgun Hotline Operator currently stands at \$35,000.00.

Estimated wages and benefits per additional Handgun Hotline operator: \$ 35,000.00

Estimated workspace rent per additional Handgun Hotline operator: \$ 1,216.00

Estimated workstation costs per additional Handgun Hotline operator: \$ 1,500.00

Total estimated costs for six additional Handgun Hotline operators: \$226,296.00

Estimated one-time costs for AB517: \$229,000.00

Estimated recurring annual costs for AB517: \$217,296.00

Phil Collins and Mike Moschkau assisted with this fiscal estimate.

### **Long-Range Fiscal Implications**

## Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2001 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

Original     
  Updated     
  Corrected     
  Supplemental

|  |  |  |                 |
|--|--|--|-----------------|
| <b>LRB Number</b> 01-3567/2  |  | <b>Introduction Number</b> AB-517              |                 |
| <b>Subject</b>   |  |  |                 |
| Prohibition against persons with criminal history from purchasing hunting approvals  |  |  |                 |
| <b>I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect):</b>  |  |  |                 |
| Estimated cost for contract programming to complete--\$200,000. Estimated cost for TIME System hardware upgrade---\$20,000 Estimated workspace costs per additional Handgun Hotline operator---\$9000 Total one-time costs for AB 517 \$229,0000 |  |  |                 |
| <b>II. Annualized Costs:</b>   |  | <b>Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:</b> |                 |
|  |  | Increased Costs                                | Decreased Costs |
| <b>A. State Costs by Category</b>  |  |  |                 |
| State Operations - Salaries and Fringes  |  | \$210,000                                      |                 |
| (FTE Position Changes)   |  | (6.0 FTE)                                      |                 |
| State Operations - Other Costs   |  | 7,296  |                 |
| Local Assistance   |  |  |                 |
| Aids to Individuals or Organizations   |  |  |                 |
| <b>TOTAL State Costs by Category</b>   |  | <b>\$217,296</b>                               | <b>\$</b>       |
| <b>B. State Costs by Source of Funds</b>   |  |  |                 |
| GPR  |  | 217,296  |                 |
| FED  |  |  |                 |
| PRO/PRS  |  |  |                 |
| SEG/SEG-S  |  |  |                 |
| <b>III. State Revenues - Complete this only when proposal will increase or decrease state revenues (e.g., tax increase, decrease in license fee, etc.)</b>   |  |  |                 |
|  |  | Increased Rev                                  | Decreased Rev   |
| GPR Taxes  |  | \$   | \$              |
| GPR Earned   |  |  |                 |
| FED  |  |  |                 |
| PRO/PRS  |  |  |                 |
| SEG/SEG-S  |  |  |                 |
| <b>TOTAL State Revenues</b>  |  | <b>\$</b>                                      | <b>\$</b>       |
| <b>NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT</b>  |  |  |                 |
|  |  | State  | Local           |
| NET CHANGE IN COSTS  |  | \$217,296                                      | \$              |
| NET CHANGE IN REVENUE  |  | \$   | \$              |
| <b>Agency/Prepared By</b>  |  | <b>Authorized Signature</b>                    | <b>Date</b>     |
| DOJ/ JoAnna Richard (608) 267-1932   |  | JoAnna Richard (608) 267-1932                  | 10/2/01         |