

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DNR 10/16/01

LRB Number	01-3411/1	Introduction Number	AB-550	Estimate Type	Original
Subject					
Prohibiting certain persons from obtaining hunting licenses					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Bill Summary:

Current law prohibits certain persons from possessing a firearm: felons; certain persons adjudicated delinquent; persons committed for treatment for mental illness; and persons enjoined from domestic abuse or harassment.

With some exceptions, this bill prohibits a person who may not legally possess a firearm from obtaining certain hunting licenses that authorize the person to hunt with a firearm, such as a small game or deer hunting license. Under an exception to this general prohibition, the bill allows such a person to obtain a turkey or bear hunting license, both of which also authorize hunting with a bow and arrow, provided that the person uses the license to hunt turkey or bear only with a bow and arrow and not with a firearm.

The bill requires the department of natural resources (DNR) to inform each person who applies for a hunting license of the above-mentioned prohibition and the associated penalties for violation. These penalties include a forfeiture of not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$2,000 and the loss of all hunting, fishing and trapping privileges for five years from the date of the court's order.

The DNR currently informs each purchaser of a hunting license that "a hunting license . . . does not authorize the possession of a firearm by a felon or anyone who cannot possess a firearm due to a conviction for a crime of domestic violence." This information is printed on the face of the receipt for hunting licenses issued through the Automated License Issuance System (ALIS). Changing this statement to include the penalties for violation would meet the DNR's requirement under the bill.

Fiscal Estimate:

Changing the statement that prints on the hunting license would incur a one-time cost of approximately \$1,000. No operational costs related to licensing are anticipated.

The Bureau of Law Enforcement will incur additional costs for the time spent by conservation wardens issuing citations and going to court to prosecute individuals who violate this law. The amount of enforcement work would decrease to the extent that this law deterred felons from buying gun hunting licenses. It would increase to the extent that they borrowed someone else's identity to buy or use a gun license, or hunted without a license at all.

It is difficult to predict the number of violations that wardens would investigate under the proposed legislation. If fifty citations were issued per year, this additional work would cost the department \$1,875 per year, assuming each citation takes approximately 1.5 hours of a warden's time and \$25 per hour for warden salary and fringe benefits. The department could cover these costs from existing resources.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2001 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 01-3411/1	Introduction Number AB-550	
Subject		
Prohibiting certain persons from obtaining hunting licenses		
I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect):		
\$1,000 to change the statement that prints on hunting licenses regarding the prohibition against certain persons carrying firearms or buying gun hunting licenses.		
II. Annualized Costs:		
	Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:	
	Increased Costs Decreased Costs	
A. State Costs by Category		
State Operations - Salaries and Fringes	\$1,875	
(FTE Position Changes)		
State Operations - Other Costs		
Local Assistance		
Aids to Individuals or Organizations		
TOTAL State Costs by Category	\$1,875 \$	
B. State Costs by Source of Funds		
GPR		
FED		
PRO/PRS		
SEG/SEG-S	1,875	
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		
	State	Local
NET CHANGE IN COSTS	\$1,875	\$
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE	\$	\$
Agency/Prepared By		
DNR/ Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794		
Authorized Signature		
Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794		
Date		
10/16/01		