

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DATCP 02/14/2002

LRB Number	01-4329/2	Introduction Number	AB-793	Estimate Type	Original
Subject					
Sales of mercury thermometers					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill bans the sale and distribution of mercury thermometers, and proposes a seven-month delayed effective date. Exceptions are provided for food processing, food research and development, agricultural climate control, industrial measurement systems, and temperature calibration, patterned after Minnesota law.

The types of thermometers banned by the bill include clinical thermometers, oven and cooking thermometers, psychrometers and hygrometers used to measure moisture and relative humidity, laboratory and weather thermometers, and other devices designed primarily for household, commercial, school and laboratory uses.

DATCP assumes an estimated 860,000 thermometer sales in Wisconsin per year, half of which are mercury-containing. The number of businesses subject to the sales prohibition cannot be quantified at this time, but will include pharmacies, hardware, specialty and general merchandise retailers, health care providers, in addition to manufacturers and distributors which supply and sell to these businesses.

DATCP estimates a variety of activities associated with administering the proposed ban, including market research, outreach and education, compliance monitoring, complaint investigation and enforcement, including coordination with local governments and other states which have enacted similar product bans. DATCP estimates additional workload exceeding 2100 hours per year. Presuming some activities can be shared or coordinated with existing staff, the Department estimates the need for at least 1.0 FTE regulatory specialist or investigator position. GPR costs include salary and fringe of \$49,700; supplies and services of \$7,500, including costs associated with the purchase of enforcement samples; and one-time costs of \$8,900.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Long-range fiscal implications are unknown. However, activities and costs associated with enforcement may gradually decrease in future years as manufacturers phaseout most mercury thermometers, and federal agencies or other states act individually or cooperatively to ban or restrict the sale of mercury-based products.

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2001 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

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Subject			
Sales of mercury thermometers			
I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect):			
\$8,900 for office set-up and computer			
II. Annualized Costs:		Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:	
		Increased Costs	Decreased Costs
A. State Costs by Category			
State Operations - Salaries and Fringes		\$49,700	
(FTE Position Changes)		(1.0 FTE)	
State Operations - Other Costs		7,500	
Local Assistance			
Aids to Individuals or Organizations			
TOTAL State Costs by Category		\$57,200	\$
B. State Costs by Source of Funds			
GPR		57,200	
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			
		State	Local
NET CHANGE IN COSTS		\$57,200	\$
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE		\$	\$
Agency/Prepared By		Authorized Signature	Date
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