Fiscal Estimate - 2003 Session

Original Updated	Corrected	Supplemental			
LRB Number 03-0533/2	Introduction Number	AB-59			
Subject					
Prohibit name changes by sex offenders					
Fiscal Effect					
State: No State Fiscal Effect Indeterminate Increase Existing Appropriations Decrease Existing Appropriations Appropriations Create New Appropriations Local: No Local Government Costs Indeterminate	e Existing Within agency's	□No			
1. Increase Costs 3. Increase F Permissive Mandatory Permissive 2. Decrease Costs 4. Decrease Permissive Mandatory Permissive	Revenue Affected Towns Counties Revenue School Mandatory Districts	Village Cities Others WTCS Districts			
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEGS					
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date			
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives DOC 2/26/2003

LRB Number 03-0533/2	Introduction Number	AB-59	Estimate Type	Original	
Subject					
Prohibit name changes by sex offenders					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill prohibits a person required to register as a sex offender in Wisconsin from changing his or her name from the name used to register with the Department of Corrections. A person violating this prohibition may be fined not more than \$10,000 or imprisoned for not more than nine months or both.

According to Department of Health and Family Services staff, they are required to change the name of any person born in Wisconsin if directed to do so by a court. DHFS staff estimate they processed 1,375 name changes (excluding changes for misspellings) during FY02 for Wisconsin residents and 150 for citizens born in Wisconsin who currently live outside the state. Names are also changed through marriage although DHFS staff do not track those changes.

If the Department assumes that the same percentage of sex offenders apply for a name change as general citizens, this would affect approximately 5 sex offenders per year. If this becomes a criminal offense, any sex offender who changes his/her name could be convicted of a crime and placed on probation (increased state costs of 1900/yr per offender) and/or sentenced to jail (increased county costs). We are not able to estimate the net fiscal impact from this legislation.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications