

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

WTCS 9/2/2003

LRB Number	03-2987/1	Introduction Number	AB-464	Estimate Type	Original
Subject					
Prohibiting drivers under probationary license and instruction permit from using a cell phone while driving					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

1. Enactment of 2003 AB 464 would prohibit a person driving under an instruction permit or a probationary license from operating a motor vehicle while using a cell phone or other wireless telecommunications device. In addition, enactment of AB 264 would require that driver education courses provide instruction relating to the general prohibition on persons driving under an instruction permit or a probationary license from operating a motor vehicle while using a cellular phone and relating to the safe use of cellular phones while operating a motor vehicle by other drivers.
2. Current law prohibits inattentive driving, which means that a driver of a motor vehicle may not be so engaged or occupied as to interfere with the safe driving of the vehicle.
3. Current law requires all driver education courses offered by technical college districts to acquaint each student with the hazards posed by farm machinery and animals on highways and by railroad grade crossings and to provide instruction in dealing safely with such hazards.
4. Only two Wisconsin technical college districts; Southwest and Western Wisconsin, provide driver education programs. Both Southwest and Western Wisconsin technical college are primary providers of driver education programs for high school students in their geographic regions.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Enactment of AB 464 would require driver education courses offered by technical colleges to include new curriculum on the hazards and safe use of cell phones while operating a motor vehicle. There would be relatively minor costs associated with the development and delivery of this curriculum in technical colleges drivers education courses. In addition, this new curriculum could extend the time required of students to complete the driver education course.