

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DNR 9/13/2005

LRB Number	05-0890/5	Introduction Number	AB-586	Estimate Type	Original
Subject					
Hunting by 10 and 11 year olds					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

BILL SUMMARY: This bill includes a number of changes to hunting and firearm possession laws for persons under age 16. These are:

Hunting Supervision - Current law specifies that persons 12 to 16 years old may hunt or have possession or control of a firearm if accompanied by a parent or guardian. This bill specifies that a person may also hunt and have a firearm if the person is accompanied by a designee who is at least 18 years old and has been designated by the parent or guardian.

Legal hunting age - Under current law, a minor under the age of 12 may not hunt with a firearm or with a bow and arrow. The bill changes the age from 12 to 10 and adds a number of restrictions to persons age 10 and 11. These restrictions include: the 10- to 11-year-olds must be within arm's reach of his or her parent, guardian, or designee; the person and parent, guardian, or designee have completed the hunter education course successfully either in Wisconsin or elsewhere; and the person and the parent, guardian, or designee may have only one firearm, one bow, or one crossbow jointly in their possession or control while hunting.

Firearm possession and control - Under current law, a minor under the age of 12 may not possess a firearm. The bill changes this age from 12 to 10. Current law allows persons 12 or 13 years old to have firearms in their possession: if accompanied by a parent or guardian; if the person is enrolled in hunter education class and is carrying an unloaded firearm in a case to or from the class; or if the person is supervised by a class instructor. This bill adds that 10- or 11-year-olds may possess or control a firearm if they are hunting within arm's reach of his or her parent, guardian, or designee, and applies the same restrictions applied to 12- and 13-year-olds in current law. In addition, the bill adds that restrictions on possession and control for persons under age 12 do not apply to persons using firearms for target practice if the person is accompanied by a parent, guardian, or designee.

Fiscal Estimate:

Revenues

Legal hunting age - the Department anticipates there will be an increase in revenue to the Fish and Wildlife Account associated with changing the legal hunting age from 12 to 10. It is assumed an additional 9,000 licenses per year would be sold at a cost of \$20 to resident hunters aged 10 and 11, equaling \$180,000. An additional 200 licenses per year would be sold at a cost of \$160 to nonresident hunters aged 10 and 11, equaling \$32,000. The total revenue increase related to this change is estimated at \$212,500 annually.

Hunter Education Courses - Increase in students to hunter education is estimated at 2,000. Fees to take the course may be \$10 a student which would equal a total of \$10,000. Instructors are allowed to keep up to \$5 per student to offset their expenses; it is assumed \$5,000 annually will be deposited into the safety and education segregated account.

Total Increases in Revenues: \$217,500.

Expenditures would include additional student materials at \$10 per student. Total \$20,000

With the increase in hunters, there is the potential for an increase in hunting related accidents, complaints, and violations. Given the increase, it is assumed Department enforcement staff will have an increased workload. It is expected that the increase in workload can be handled as part of the current enforcement of hunting regulations.

Total Increases in Costs: \$20,000.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2005 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 05-0890/5		Introduction Number AB-586	
Subject			
Hunting by 10 and 11 year olds			
I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect):			
II. Annualized Costs:		Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:	
		Increased Costs	Decreased Costs
A. State Costs by Category			
	State Operations - Salaries and Fringes	\$	
	(FTE Position Changes)		
	State Operations - Other Costs	20,000	
	Local Assistance		
	Aids to Individuals or Organizations		
	TOTAL State Costs by Category	\$20,000	\$
B. State Costs by Source of Funds			
	GPR		
	FED		
	PRO/PRS		
	SEG/SEG-S	20,000	
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	217,500	
	FED		
	PRO/PRS		
	SEG/SEG-S		
	TOTAL State Revenues	\$217,500	\$
NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT			
		<u>State</u>	<u>Local</u>
	NET CHANGE IN COSTS	\$20,000	\$
	NET CHANGE IN REVENUE	\$217,500	\$
Agency/Prepared By		Authorized Signature	Date
DNR/ Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794		Joe Polasek (608) 266-2794	9/13/2005