## Fiscal Estimate - 2005 Session

Original Dpdated	Corrected Supplemental				
LRB Number <b>05-3593/1</b>	Introduction Number AB-846				
<b>Description</b> Fuel price gouging and providing a penalty					
Fiscal Effect					
Appropriations Rev	rease Existing //enues Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget //enues				
Local:  No Local Government Costs  Indeterminate  1. Increase Costs Permissive Mandatory  2. Decrease Costs Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Districts  5. Types of Local Government Units Affected Towns Village Cities Counties Others School 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 SPD 12/5/2005

LRB Number	05-3593/1	Introduction Number	AB-846	Estimate Type	Original	
Description						
Fuel price gouging and providing a penalty						

## **Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate**

The State Public Defender (SPD) provides legal representation in criminal cases and other specified proceedings in which the loss of personal liberty or parental rights may occur. For adult clients, the SPD must complete a financial eligibility evaluation before appointing an attorney. SPD services are constitutionally required because in the case types handled by SPD, a defendant without the financial means to hire an attorney has the right to have an attorney appointed. Therefore, any bill that would increase the number of cases handled by SPD would increase SPD costs.

This bill creates a new crime, which ordinarily would result in an increase in SPD costs to provide representation. However, the commercial nature of the crime makes it likely that defendants would have income or assets in excess of the SPD's financial eligibility criteria.

Counties may also incur additional costs for appointment of attorneys under State v. Dean for defendants who do not meet SPD's strict financial criteria. Incarceration costs may also increase for defendants held in jail (both pending court hearings and serving sentences).

We are not aware of any existing data to predict the number of new cases or the additional attorney time resulting from this bill, but we could track these numbers in the future.

**Long-Range Fiscal Implications**