

Fiscal Estimate - 2005 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 05-4574/1	Introduction Number SB-577
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Description
 The Volunteer Fire Fighter and Emergency Medical Technician Service Award Program and the exclusion of wages earned for services performed as a volunteer fire fighter, emergency medical technician, or first responder from partial unemployment benefit determinations

Fiscal Effect

State:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect
<input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations
<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations
<input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations | <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues
<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs |
|--|--|---|

Local:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate
1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory | 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory
4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory | 5. Types of Local Government Units Affected
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Towns <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Village <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others
<input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts |
|---|--|---|

Fund Sources Affected	Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS s.20.505(4)(er)	

Agency/Prepared By DOA/ Mary Massey (608) 267-2099	Authorized Signature Martha Kerner (608) 266-1359	Date 2/23/2006
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DOA 2/23/2006

LRB Number	05-4574/1	Introduction Number	SB-577	Estimate Type	Original
Description The Volunteer Fire Fighter and Emergency Medical Technician Service Award Program and the exclusion of wages earned for services performed as a volunteer fire fighter, emergency medical technician, or first responder from partial unemployment benefit determinations					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

If enacted this bill would make several changes to the Volunteer Fire Fighters and Emergency Medical Technician Service Award Program.

Currently counties and municipalities may offer emergency medical services programs. However the length of service awards currently are restricted to those programs offered by municipalities.

This bill adds counties to those eligible to participate. The department estimates that this provision will add 6 to 8 county departments covering 240 fire fighters and EMTs to the program. The current state match amount is \$274.33 per participant. Consequently, this would increase GPR payments by a maximum of \$65,800. Since county and municipality contributions can exceed the state contribution, the local impact cannot be determined.

In addition to counties, the bill adds first responders to the list of those eligible to participate. Based on testimony by the Wisconsin EMS Association, most first responders are already covered under the fire fighter portion of the program. Consequently this provision will have a minor state fiscal impact. The impact on local costs cannot be determined as contributions will vary by county or municipality.

The bill eliminates the 5-year waiting period before a county or municipality can begin to purchase extra years of coverage. Also, it would change rules regarding reductions in UC that result from wages earned as a volunteer firefighter, emergency medical technician, or first responder. The elimination of the 5-year waiting period has no state fiscal impact. The impact on local costs cannot be determined as contributions will vary by county or municipality. There is insufficient information available to determine the financial impact of the UC change.

By statute, total state service awards are limited to \$2 million each fiscal year. In FY05, \$1.3 million was paid in awards. Based on the above information, the state match appropriation would still remain well below the \$2 million threshold as the result of this bill.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

None

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2005 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

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Description The Volunteer Fire Fighter and Emergency Medical Technician Service Award Program and the exclusion of wages earned for services performed as a volunteer fire fighter, emergency medical technician, or first responder from partial unemployment benefit determinations			
I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect): None			
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			
Local Assistance			
Aids to Individuals or Organizations	65,800		
TOTAL State Costs by Category	\$65,800		\$
B. State Costs by Source of Funds			
GPR	65,800		
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	\$65,800		\$
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE	\$		\$
Agency/Prepared By		Authorized Signature	Date
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