

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DOC 3/29/2005

LRB Number 05-1537/1	Introduction Number AB-251	Estimate Type Original
Subject Sex offenders filming or photographing children		

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill prohibits a person required to register as a sex offender from intentionally photographing, filming or videotaping any person under the age of 17 unless the parent, custodian or guardian of the person under the age of 17 provides written consent. The bill also provides a penalty for the Class I Felony of fines up to \$10,000 and a maximum bifurcated sentence of up to 3 years and 6 months (1.5 years confinement time and 2 years extended supervision). This bill requires the Department to notify any person required to register as a sex offender of the new law.

During March 2005, 17,266 adult and juvenile sex offenders are required to register with Wisconsin's Sex Offender Registry. Approximately 5,060 of these offenders are incarcerated; the remaining 12,206 offenders are in the community.

The Department is unable to predict how many of these persons would be convicted of the new Class I Felony. State costs will increase if additional persons are incarcerated in a state prison or placed on probation. The average annual FY04 cost to incarcerate an adult in the correctional system is \$28,000 and \$2000 for community supervision. If additional persons are adjudicated delinquent for this new crime, county costs would increase. In FY04 the average annual cost to place an individual in a juvenile correctional institution was \$77,900.

County costs could also increase if offenders are given jail time as a condition of probation or offenders are detained pending disposition of their case.

The Department would be required to notify sex offenders required to register of the new law. The estimated cost of paper, envelopes and postage consumed to provide written notification totals approximately \$5,000.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications