



## Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DNR 2/27/2008

LRB Number	07-3460/1	Introduction Number	AB-0716	Estimate Type	Original
<b>Description</b> Prohibits individuals who cannot obtain a firearm from obtaining a hunting license.					

### Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

**Bill Summary:** This bill prohibits any person who is prohibited from possessing a firearm (felons, certain persons with injunctions or restraining orders, etc.) from obtaining a hunting license that authorizes hunting with a firearm. The bill defines hunting license as a license issued under Wis. Stat. Chapter 29. The licenses authorized in this chapter would include the small game, turkey, fur-bearing animal, deer, bear and elk hunting licenses, as well as the sports and patrons combination hunting licenses. Under this bill the Department will be required to notify each person applying for any of these hunting licenses that they may not obtain the license if they are prohibited from possessing a firearm. Even if they only plan to use the license to hunt with a bow and arrow or crossbow, which is otherwise legal under each of these licenses, except for the deer hunting license which is the only license the DNR issues that only allows hunting with a firearm and not bow and arrows. The bill also requires the DNR to annually request that the Department of Justice (DOJ) conduct a firearms restrictions record search with respect to every person to whom DNR issued any of these types of hunting licenses. The bill creates a forfeiture of not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$2,000 for violations of the bill.

#### Fiscal Estimate:

**Assumptions:** This fiscal estimate is based on statistics for Wisconsin from the Federal Bureau of Investigation/National Instant Background Checks records on long gun purchase applications and on DOJ background checks for handgun purchase applications for 2007. (The majority of hunters in Wisconsin hunt with long guns, however, it is possible to hunt with handguns.) In 2007 there were 180,607 background checks regarding the purchase of long guns, which resulted in 1,529 denials ( or 0.85%) and 38,849 checks regarding the purchase of handguns which resulted in 572 denials ( or 1.47%). For purposes of this fiscal estimate, the 0.85% of denials will be used; however, the 0.85% denial rate on long gun purchase applications occurred in the absence of a forfeiture or fine for applying for a gun. (This bill does have a forfeiture and fine attached to applying for a hunting license.) The assumed number of potential violations will likely drop as individuals become aware that they will be detected and face a penalty for purchasing the license.

For the DNR, there will be three areas of fiscal impacts:

#### 1.) Lost Revenue - \$48,700 Fish and Wildlife SEG

Annually, the Department sells approximately 150,500 turkey hunting licenses, 4,500 Class A bear licenses, and 136,700 individual small game licenses. The percentage of individuals who hunt these species with a bow or air gun only because they are not allowed to possess a firearm is not known. However, assuming that 0.85 % of all hunters are prohibited from possessing firearms, then under this bill, the Department may see a reduction of approximately 2,480 licenses sold (approximately 0.85% of each of the above-stated licenses). These are licenses that would be needed to legally hunt for certain species with a bow and arrow or air gun.

1280 Turkey licenses and Stamps X \$20.25 = \$ 25,920

1162 Small game license X \$18 = \$ 20,916

38 Class A bear licenses X \$49 = \$ 1,862

2480 Total = \$ 48,700 Potential loss of revenue

#### 2.) Costs to DNR's Bureau of Customer Service and Licensing (CS)

CS will incur one-time costs to update the Automated License Issuance System (ALIS) and information provided which gives notice to those who are not allowed to possess a firearm. The customer signature receipt language would need to be modified at a cost of \$2,500 to reprint receipts. Additionally, as new license paper stock is ordered, the language printed on the backside of all license documents would be edited to include the new requirements.

#### 3.) Cost to DNR's Bureau of Law Enforcement (LE)

LE will likely see a substantial increase in workload required to complete follow-up and enforcement actions

on all potential violations when it is informed by DOJ annually of those individuals who are not allowed to possess a firearm, but did purchase a hunting license. The exact cost to the LE Bureau will depend on the number of individuals that DOJ reports back as being prohibited from possessing a firearm. Assuming that the percentage of hunters purchasing hunting licenses who are prohibited from possessing a firearm is approximately the same as the percentage of individuals attempting to purchase firearms who are prohibited from possessing a firearm, the Department may have to investigate as many as 5,950 individuals annually for possibly violating this provisions of this bill (~ 700,000 total hunters x 0.85% = 5,950 individuals). The Department would expect it to take an average of 4 hours to investigate and complete each of the cases for a total workload increase of 23,800 hrs [5,950 X 4 hours], or an equivalent of approximately 13 FTE [ 23,800 / 1820 hrs] and an annualized cost of \$1,066,400 [13 FTE x 2080hrs x \$25/hr x 1.5775 warden fringe rate].

**Additional State Revenues:**

Since the bill creates a forfeiture of not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$2,000 for violations of the bill, there may be some additional state forfeiture-related revenue, particularly in the first year of the program. If, for example, 10% (or 595) of the 5,950 individuals investigated resulted in court assessed forfeitures of \$1,000 each, the additional revenue to the common school fund may be approximately \$595,000 [ $\$1,000 \times 595$ ]; the additional revenue to a Department of Justice (DOJ) penalty surcharge appropriation may be approximately \$154,700 [ $\$1,000 \times 0.26 \times 595$ ]; and the additional revenue to the Conservation Fund may be approximately \$449,200 from the natural resources surcharge (75% of the amount of the surcharge) and the wildlife violator surcharge (\$5 per violator) [ $(\$1,000 \times 0.75 \times 595) + (595 \times \$5)$ ].

The Department assumes that in future years, the number of forfeitures related to this provision will likely drop significantly as persons become aware of these enforcement provisions. For purposes of this estimate, the Department assumes that following the first year of implementation, this bill would result in 150 court assessed forfeitures, resulting in \$302,300 in total annual revenue: \$150,000 to the common school fund, \$39,000 to a DOJ penalty surcharge appropriation, and approximately \$113,300 to the Conservation Fund related to natural resource and wildlife violator surcharges.

**Long-Range Fiscal Implications**

None

## Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2007 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

Original
     
  Updated
     
  Corrected
     
  Supplemental

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<b>Description</b> Prohibits individuals who cannot obtain a firearm from obtaining a hunting license.			
<b>I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect):</b>  Reprinting of customer receipts \$2,500. One-time revenues of up to \$1,198,900 related to forfeitures and surcharges.			
<b>II. Annualized Costs:</b>		<b>Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:</b>	
		Increased Costs	Decreased Costs
<b>A. State Costs by Category</b>			
State Operations - Salaries and Fringes	\$1,066,400		\$
(FTE Position Changes)	(13.0 FTE)		
State Operations - Other Costs			
Local Assistance			
Aids to Individuals or Organizations			
<b>TOTAL State Costs by Category</b>	<b>\$1,066,400</b>		<b>\$</b>
<b>B. State Costs by Source of Funds</b>			
GPR			
FED			
PRO/PRS			
SEG/SEG-S	1,066,400		
<b>III. State Revenues - Complete this only when proposal will increase or decrease state revenues (e.g., tax increase, decrease in license fee, etc.)</b>			
	Increased Rev		Decreased Rev
GPR Taxes	\$		\$
GPR Earned			
FED			
PRO/PRS	39,000		
SEG/SEG-S	263,300		-48,700
<b>TOTAL State Revenues</b>	<b>\$302,300</b>		<b>\$-48,700</b>
<b>NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT</b>			
	State		Local
NET CHANGE IN COSTS	\$1,066,400		\$
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE	\$253,600		\$
<b>Agency/Prepared By</b>		<b>Authorized Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
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