

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DOJ 10/30/2007

LRB Number 07-2410/1	Introduction Number AB-0502	Estimate Type Original
Description Furnishing or using certain consumer loan information to make solicitations and providing a penalty		

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Assembly Bill 502 creates s. 100.55, Wis. Stats, prohibiting furnishing or using certain consumer loan information to make solicitations.

Under current law, the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) is directed to enforce the numerous trade practice regulations found in Chapter 100. Also under current law, the Department of Justice (DOJ) shall furnish all legal services required by DATCP relating to the enforcement of Chapter 100. In practice, DATCP receives trade practice complaints, investigates the complaints, and, if necessary, attempts to mitigate the complaint. If DATCP's attempt to resolve a complaint is unsuccessful, DATCP refers the complaint to DOJ for prosecution.

AB 502 requires DATCP to investigate violations of s. 100.55. The bill also provides that DATCP, DOJ, or any district attorney may enforce s. 100.55. The Department of Justice assumes that enforcement of most, if not all, violations of s. 100.55 would be handled by DOJ, much like current violations of chapter 100. However, DOJ is not aware of any information that accurately indicates how many new cases DATCP will refer to DOJ for prosecution under the provisions of AB 502.

If the number of new referrals to DOJ is significant, the department will require additional resources to handle the increased caseload.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications