

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DOT 1/30/2008

LRB Number 07-0686/1	Introduction Number AB-0014	Estimate Type Original
Description Admissibility of digitally produced photograph, film, motion picture, audio, or video		

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

If enacted, this watermark requirement would render obsolete most digital recording units currently in use by the Wisconsin State Patrol (WSP), as well as units being used by other state and most local law enforcement agencies. This would require premature replacement of most existing digital recording equipment, including:

(1) Digital voice recorders at all seven WSP communication centers, purchased for \$400,000 in 2005. (Digital transcripts from the current software are tamper-resistant only if played back using proprietary software.) The fiscal effect on non-WSP communication centers is indeterminable.

Estimated replacement cost (WSP-only): \$800,000

(2) Digital hand-held audio recording devices. Number of units currently deployed to sworn WSP personnel statewide is unknown. The fiscal effect on non-WSP law enforcement agencies is indeterminable.

Estimated replacement cost (WSP-only): Indeterminable

(3) Digital still photography cameras. Number of units currently deployed to sworn WSP personnel statewide is unknown. The fiscal effect on non-WSP law enforcement agencies is indeterminable.

Estimated replacement cost (WSP-only): Indeterminable

If enacted, this watermark requirement might not affect the digital video camera systems currently deployed in 52 WSP cruisers. These feature a proprietary tamper-resistant security system that is superior to digital watermark technology. Video camera systems currently deployed in about 450 WSP cruisers are analog, and would be unaffected by this bill. The fiscal effect on non-WSP law enforcement agencies is indeterminable.

Total fiscal impact (WSP only): Minimum \$800,000

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Indeterminable