Wisconsin Department of Administration
Division of Executive Budget and Finance

Fiscal Estimate - 2007 Session

☒ Original ☐ Updated ☐ Corrected ☐ Supplemental

LRB Number **07-3385/2**	Introduction Number **AB-0773**

Description
Home detention

Fiscal Effect

State:
- ☐ No State Fiscal Effect
- ☐ Indeterminate
  - ☐ Increase Existing Appropriations
  - ☐ Decrease Existing Appropriations
  - ☐ Create New Appropriations
  - ☐ Increase Existing Revenues
  - ☐ Decrease Existing Revenues
  - ☐ Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget ☐ Yes ☐ No
  - ☐ Decrease Costs

Local:
- ☐ No Local Government Costs
- ☒ Indeterminate
  - 1. ☐ Increase Costs ☐ Permissive ☐ Mandatory
  - 2. ☒ Decrease Costs ☒ Permissive ☐ Mandatory
  - 3. ☐ Increase Revenue ☐ Permissive ☐ Mandatory
  - 4. ☐ Decrease Revenue ☐ Permissive ☐ Mandatory
  - 5. Types of Local Government Units Affected: ☐ Towns ☐ Village ☐ Cities ☒ Counties ☐ Others ☐ School Districts ☐ WTCS Districts

Fund Sources Affected **Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations**

☐ GPR ☐ FED ☐ PRO ☐ PRS ☐ SEG ☐ SEGS

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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DOC 2/20/2008

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Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, a county sheriff or superintendent of a jail may release a jailed person and confine the person to the person's home [home detention] if the Department of Corrections agrees. The sheriff or superintendent must place the released inmate on an active electronic monitoring system and monitor the inmate while the offender is in the home detention program. This bill removes the requirement that a county sheriff or superintendent seek the Department of Corrections' agreement before releasing any jailed person.

The Department does not have a count of the number of home detention programs operated by county sheriffs in Wisconsin, nor the cost of operating those programs. Currently, the Department provides equipment and monitoring services to 10 counties at a cost of $4.20/day; counties contracting with another vendor may pay a different amount for electronic monitoring. It is assumed that if a home detention program is already operating, the costs of home detention are substantially lower than the cost of a jail bed. As a result, moving an offender from jail custody to home detention could result in reduced costs to the county if the county moves additional offenders into home detention for which the Department would not have agreed.

The Department's probation and parole agents' workload may increase if a person released from jail to home detention is under the Department's supervision and must now be supervised at a more intensive level than a jailed offender is supervised. In addition, if a county increased its utilization of the Department's equipment and monitoring services, the Department would experience an increase in the electronic monitoring center activity, along with an increase in revenues for those services.

The Department is not able to estimate how many offenders would be moved from jail custody to home detention as a result of this legislation, so a fiscal impact on the Department or local county jails cannot be determined.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications