

Fiscal Estimate - 2007 Session

Original Updated Corrected Supplemental

LRB Number 07-3985/1 **Introduction Number SB-462**

Description
 Psychological evaluations for law enforcement officers, providing an exemption from emergency rule procedures, and requiring the exercise of rule-making authority

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 3. Increase Revenue
 - Permissive Mandatory
 - Permissive Mandatory
- 2. Decrease Costs 4. Decrease Revenue
 - Permissive Mandatory
 - 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

DOR 2/20/2008

LRB Number	07-3985/1	Introduction Number	SB-462	Estimate Type	Original
Description Psychological evaluations for law enforcement officers, providing an exemption from emergency rule procedures, and requiring the exercise of rule-making authority					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill provides that a candidate for a full-time law enforcement officer position must submit to a psychological evaluation. This evaluation requirement applies to officers appointed on or after January 1, 2009. The bill also requires local and state agencies that employ law enforcement officers to review the psychological evaluation before appointing the individual.

Based on the 2006 U.S. Census of Governments, Wisconsin is estimated to have 11,324 local police officers. In addition, based on a survey of nearly 1,000 law enforcement agencies by the Police Executive Research Forum in 2005, the average vacancy rate in law enforcement positions is about 4%. Assuming the psychological evaluation required by the bill is applied to 4% of local law enforcement positions annually, approximately 450 evaluations will be required by local governments each year.

Usually, fees for psychological evaluation are based upon the number and nature of psychological tests administered. Depending on the nature of the tests (written test, computer tests, an interview, a combination of both, etc) and the position of a person administering it (clerk, psychological professionals, or a psychologist), the costs can vary quite significantly. While the bill requires the evaluation to be conducted by a licensed psychologist, the content of the evaluation is to be determined by rule. Assuming each psychological evaluation costs \$600 (based on a breakdown of police academy costs in New Jersey), the bill would add an estimated \$300,000 annually to the costs of local governments employing police officers. These costs would be diminished, however, to the degree that local governments are already requiring psychological evaluations for new officers.

The Department of Revenue does not expect to incur any significant costs under this proposal.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications