

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DHS 2/9/2010

LRB Number	09-4079/1	Introduction Number	SB-478	Estimate Type	Original
Description Orders to commit state prison inmates to a mental health facility					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, the procedure to commit a person involuntarily to a mental health facility begins by filing a petition alleging that the person is mentally ill, drug dependent, or developmentally disabled, is a proper subject for treatment, and is dangerous. If these allegations are proven, the person may initially be committed for treatment for a period not to exceed six months, and any consecutive commitment order may not exceed 12 months.

In addition, a procedure to commit an inmate of a prison may begin under an alternative petition, which must allege all of the following: 1) that the inmate is mentally ill, is a proper subject for treatment, and is in need of treatment; 2) that the inmate is informed about his treatment needs; and 3) that less restrictive forms of treatment have been unsuccessful. If these allegations are proven, the inmate may be committed under this alternative petition for not more than 180 days in a 365 day period.

Inmates of a prison committed to a mental health facility under petition or an alternative petition receive treatment at the Wisconsin Resource Center (WRC) if they are male or on a forensic unit at Winnebago Mental Health Institute (WMHI) if they are female. Under current law, inmates committed to a mental health facility under an alternative petition must leave WRC to return to DOC at the end of six months. Often, they are recommitted to WRC after an additional six months to receive further treatment. This can often lead to inmates cycling through six-month periods of being on and off medications, resulting in an inefficient use of WRC psychiatry, social work, pharmacy, nursing, and management staff resources as well as the resources of the courts.

Under this bill, under the alternative petition, an inmate of a prison may initially be committed for treatment for a period not to exceed six months, and any consecutive commitment order may not exceed 12 months.

The bill will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of WRC and WMHI treatment programs by allowing inmates longer treatment stays at WRC and WMHI. However, it will not result in a net GPR savings or cost to DHS. To the extent that inmates involuntarily committed to a mental health facility under alternative petition are consecutively committed and therefore receive treatment for more than 180 days in a 365 day period, the length of stay for inmates receiving treatment at WRC and on forensic units at WMHI will increase. WRC is funded with GPR under s. 20.435 (2) (bm) and WMHI forensic units are funded with GPR under s. 20.435 (2) (b). However, these facilities and units currently operate at or near their treatment capacity, so GPR expenditures under s. 20.435 (2) (b) and s. 20.435 (2) (bm) will not increase under this bill.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2009 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

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Description Orders to commit state prison inmates to a mental health facility			
I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect):			
II. Annualized Costs:		Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:	
		Increased Costs	Decreased Costs
A. State Costs by Category			
State Operations - Salaries and Fringes	\$		\$
(FTE Position Changes)			
State Operations - Other Costs			
Local Assistance			
Aids to Individuals or Organizations			
TOTAL State Costs by Category	\$		\$
B. State Costs by Source of Funds			
GPR			
FED			
PRO/PRS			
SEG/SEG-S			
III. State Revenues - Complete this only when proposal will increase or decrease state revenues (e.g., tax increase, decrease in license fee, ets.)			
		Increased Rev	Decreased Rev
GPR Taxes	\$		\$
GPR Earned			
FED			
PRO/PRS			
SEG/SEG-S			
TOTAL State Revenues	\$		\$
NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT			
		State	Local
NET CHANGE IN COSTS	\$0		\$0
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE	\$0		\$0
Agency/Prepared By		Authorized Signature	
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		Date	
		2/9/2010	