Fiscal Estimate - 2009 Session

X	Original		Updated		Corrected		Supplemental				
LRB	Number	09-1477/2		Introd	luction Numb	oer A	AB-0230				
Description Electronic access by law enforcement agencies to photographs on motor vehicle operators licenses and identification cards											
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives DOJ 7/15/2009

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identification cards										

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, driver license and identification card photos maintained by the Department of Transportation (DOT) are generally confidential. One exception allows law enforcement agencies, upon written request to DOT, access to the photos for limited law enforcement purposes.

The Transaction Information for the Management of Enforcement (TIME) System is a computer-based data communications control center managed by the Department of Justice (DOJ). The control center computers interface law enforcement TIME System terminals to data files and provide the capability to send administrative messages between terminals. The mission of the TIME System is to facilitate the rapid and efficient exchange of factual information between law enforcement agencies.

Currently, when a law enforcement officer runs a "name search" through the TIME System, that officer has access to a number of records, including DOT driver records. Under Assembly Bill 230, DOT shall add digital driver license and identification card photos to those driver records available to DOJ's TIME System. DOJ's TIME System shall allow Wisconsin, federal, and other states' law enforcement agencies electronic access to the photos for the purpose of administration of criminal justice or traffic enforcement. DOJ shall maintain a record of each request by a law enforcement agency for a photograph and of the response to the request for at least 12 months. If the bill is enacted, it takes effect on the first day of the seventh month beginning after publication.

To comply with the provisions of AB 230, DOJ will have to make TIME System information delivery and database modifications. In the near term, to implement these changes, DOJ will need to: (1) modify the TIME and National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS) handlers and (2) change the existing DOT response XML schema and create a new DOT driver schema. These projects will require development, testing, and implementation, as well as coordination with DOT.

If contractors are used to make the modifications identified above, DOJ estimates that contractor costs would be approximately \$85,000. The agency could absorb these costs by delaying implementation of other IT and/or TIME system-related projects that would otherwise be scheduled to occur within the biennium using contractors. While DOJ internal IT staff has the technical expertise to complete the modifications, it is estimated that existing resources could not do so within the time-period specified by the bill while managing other statutory or critical IT needs. DOJ estimates that it could use existing state personnel to complete the project internally if the time period for compliance were lengthened to 12 months, assuming DOT can make commensurate changes in a timely fashion.

The Department is also hopeful that federal funds will be made available to help offset some expected costs. The National Institute of Justice (NIJ), the research, development, and evaluation agency of the U.S. Department of Justice, recently awarded over \$1 million in federal grants to NLETS to promote and implement interstate driver photo sharing. NLETS is a nonprofit corporation chartered by the states and funded by user fees. NLETS is law enforcement's state-of-the-art criminal justice information sharing network. Wisconsin DOJ plans to apply to NLETS for a grant to cover the costs of implementing AB 230 as soon as additional federal grant dollars are made available to NLETS.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Adding digital driver license and identification card photos to the amount of information transmitted via the TIME System, and maintaining a record of each request by a law enforcement agency for a photograph and of the response to the request for at least 12 months, may exceed the system's data processing and storage capabilities. In simple terms, the administration of this bill will stress existing data processing, data storing, and web server processing hardware. The Department is currently approaching manufacturer recommended specifications for the devices used to process related transactions. Absent new hardware, it is reasonable to

expect that adding additional stress to systems approaching capacity, at a minimum, will negatively affect processing speed.

As a result, the implementation of this bill may require the Department to accelerate the need to purchase hardware to process and store the increased levels of data which the administration of AB 230 will require. Related hardware and software purchases are estimated to be \$159,000. At some point, these purchases will be required regardless of whether this bill is enacted and thus are not directly assignable to the bill in full. The bill's enactment, however, will accelerate the need to make these hardware purchases.