

Fiscal Estimate Narratives
DNR 3/22/2010

LRB Number	09-0131/1	Introduction Number	AB-0849	Estimate Type	Original
Description creating a public intervenor in the Department of Justice and making an appropriation.					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill requires the attorney general to appoint an assistant attorney general to serve as the public intervenor. The bill authorizes the public intervenor to formally commence or intervene in proceedings before any court whenever intervention is necessary to protect the public rights in water and other natural resources of this state and requires the public intervenor to intervene in those matters when requested to do so by a division administrator in the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

The bill requires DNR personnel to notify the public intervenor of all administrative proceedings under the environmental protection chapters and to make investigations, studies, and reports to assist the public intervenor either before or during any formal intervention.

State Fiscal Impact

This legislation would increase DNR workload associated with the Intervenor (as compared to authority of the Public Intervenor position that Wisconsin formerly had) by giving the office greater access to field staff and experts at DNR. The proposed law requires participation by DNR staff when requested by the Intervenor. It is difficult to determine how often this will occur, but an active Intervenor could require substantial support from DNR staff for technical expertise and expert witnesses. Even at a low level of two routine cases per year, staff time could total 120 hours/employee/case X 3 employees X 2 cases = 720 hours. If the Intervenor chose to intervene in a case such as the Crandon Mine case, DNR staff time devoted to the Intervenor could be five or even 10 times higher than this.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2009 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

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Description creating a public intervenor in the Department of Justice and making an appropriation.		
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, etc.)		
	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	\$	\$
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE	\$	\$
Agency/Prepared By		
Authorized Signature		Date
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