

Fiscal Estimate - 2011 Session

Original Updated Corrected Supplemental

LRB Number 11-2357/2		Introduction Number AB-0429	
Description Waiving fees for certain professional and occupational licenses issued to veterans			
Fiscal Effect			
State:			
<input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate			
<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget	
<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations		<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs	
Local:			
<input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs			
<input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate			
1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs	3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue	5. Types of Local Government Units Affected	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Towns	<input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs	4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> Counties	<input type="checkbox"/> Others <u>0</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> School Districts	<input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts
Fund Sources Affected		Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations	
<input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS			
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date	
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DCF 1/17/2012

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Description Waiving fees for certain professional and occupational licenses issued to veterans					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to maintain a program that requires licensing agencies such as DCF to grant licensing fee waivers for certain qualified veterans when they issue licenses to these veterans. Licenses for which DCF is responsible under this bill are those issued to a child welfare agency, group home, child care center operator, or shelter care facility as defined in current law. The bill does not waive fees that may be charged by counties or the state (in Milwaukee) for certification of child-care providers or for performing background checks.

The Department currently licenses approximately 2,700 facilities annually, with about 2,600 of these facilities associated with child care and 100 associated with child welfare. Licenses are generally issued for a 2-year period and the fee varies based primarily on the number of children for whom the facility is licensed to provide care. Based on 2,643 child care licenses issued in SFY 2011 and \$1,038,851 in licensing revenue collected, the average license fee was \$393. It is estimated that in about half of these facilities, the holder of these licenses is not an individual. The Department does not collect veteran status on applications for its licenses, but the number of currently licensed providers that are veterans is believed to be small.

The primary fiscal impact is assumed to relate to one-time waivers of the child care licensing fees for veterans that are applying for licensure. Given that the number of individuals applying for licenses who may be veterans is unknown, the fiscal impact of this bill cannot be determined. Assuming 50% of licensees are individuals and 7% of these individuals are veterans, approximately 94 individuals could be eligible for the fee waiver, which could result in foregone revenue of approximately \$37,000 based on the SFY average revenue per license if all individuals that were eligible applied for the waiver.

Since the bill would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to determine whether or not a veteran is eligible for a fee waiver, DCF would have minimal costs (primarily consisting of existing staff time) to modify application materials and processing procedures to waive the fee for those approved by Veteran's Affairs. It is anticipated that these costs can be absorbed.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications