

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DOR 3/5/2012

LRB Number	11-2110/1	Introduction Number	AB-0586	Estimate Type	Original
Description Professional land surveyors; the practice of professional land surveying; surveying land abutting navigable waters; various changes regarding platting, surveying, and certified survey maps; and granting rule-making authority					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill makes extensive changes to current law concerning surveyors. This fiscal note will discuss only those changes of relevance to the administrative duties of the Department of Revenue (DOR).

The bill changes how an "assessor's plat" can be made. Under current law, if an area of land is owned by two or more persons whose interests are "in severalty" (not in joint ownership), and if the governing body having jurisdiction (a town, village, city, or county) finds the descriptions of the affected parcels can't be made sufficiently accurate for purposes of assessment, taxation, and tax titles, the governing body can order a plat to be made to establish accurate borders. Such a plat is referred to as an "assessor's plat". The plat must be carried out by a surveyor. The cost of preparing the plat is paid by the municipality or county that ordered its preparation. The municipality or county, in turn, may assess this cost against the affected parcels as a special assessment. The plat, when approved by the governing body's board, must be recorded with the county register of deeds.

Under the bill, an "assessor's plat" must be prepared by a professional land surveyor who holds a license by the Examining Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers, and Professional Land Surveyors. A county register of deeds may not accept a plat for recording unless it is produced on material that is capable of clearly legible reproduction on other media.

The bill is expected to have little, if any, effect on municipal or county costs related to the preparation of an "assessor's plat".

The bill imposes no administrative costs on the DOR.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications