

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DHS 5/11/2011

LRB Number	11-1960/1	Introduction Number	SB-086	Estimate Type	Original
Description Permitting an educational agency to refuse to employ or to terminate from employment an unpardoned felon					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Current State law prohibits employment discrimination based on an individual's conviction record, subject to certain exceptions. Current law specifies it is not employment discrimination to refuse to employ or terminate an individual who has been convicted of a felony, misdemeanor, or other offense under circumstances substantially related to the circumstances of the particular job.

This bill specifies that it is not employment discrimination for an "educational agency" to refuse to employ or to terminate an individual who has been convicted of a felony, whether the circumstances of the felony substantially relate to the circumstances of the particular job or not. "Educational agency" is defined in the bill to include, among other facilities, the Mendota and Winnebago Health Institutes, secured residential care centers for children and youth, and state centers for the developmentally disabled.

This bill will not have a fiscal effect on the Department of Health Services (DHS). The additional discretion the bill provides to DHS facilities in choosing to hire individuals with felony convictions will not increase or decrease the cost to run the facilities' educational or treatment programs.

The Department also anticipates no fiscal impact on local human services agencies because the bill provides additional discretion and not a mandate on those agencies.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications