

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DHS 3/5/2014

LRB Number	13-4314/1	Introduction Number	SB-633	Estimate Type	Original
Description Information on a person who is required to register as a sex offender and notification of law enforcement when certain sex offenders change residential addresses					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

2013 SB 633 modifies reporting requirements pertaining to sex offenders and the sex offender registry. Under current law, a person must register with the Department of Corrections (DOC) as a sex offender if he or she is convicted of certain sex offenses, is found not guilty of certain sex offenses by reason of mental disease or defect, or is adjudicated delinquent on the basis of certain sex offenses. DOC maintains the sex offender registry and makes registry information available to the public through the Internet and to law enforcement through a direct electronic data transfer system. If the Department of Health Services (DHS) has supervision over a registrant, it must provide registry information to DOC, with the assistance of the registrant. Also, if a sex offender is confined, supervised, or released under the jurisdiction of DHS, the Department may be required to provide a written bulletin to local law enforcement.

Under current law, if DHS has authority over a registrant who is released from confinement or care, and that registrant was convicted or found not guilty or not responsible by reason of mental disease or defect for a sex offense only one time, the Department has the discretion to notify the police chief of any community and the sheriff of any county in which the person will be residing, employed, or attending school if the Department determines that the notification is necessary to protect the public. However, if the registrant was convicted or found guilty or not responsible by reason of mental disease or defect for a sex offense on two or more separate occasions or the registrant has been deemed a sexually violent person under Wis. Stat. Ch. 980, the Department is required to notify the police chief of any community and the sheriff of any county in which the person will be residing, employed, or attending school and through or to which the registrant will be regularly traveling. The information must be provided in the form of a written bulletin.

This bill modifies these requirements by providing that, in cases where the Department has notified local authorities, if a registrant changes his or her residential address, the Department must notify the police chief of any community, and the sheriff of any county, in which the registrant will be residing, employed, or attending school. In addition, this bill requires a registrant to report all addresses at which he or she will be residing to the sex offender registry.

DHS currently tracks the residential address of all sex offenders under its supervision. The Department also provides written bulletins to local law enforcement as required by law. This bill would require the Department to send a written bulletin to law enforcement when certain sex offenders change residences. The Department would also provide change of address information to the sex offender registry for registrants under its supervision. The Department does not anticipate any fiscal effect related to the provisions of this bill. The Department can issue additional notifications that might result from the bill using existing resources.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications