

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

LFB 1/27/2016

LRB Number	15-4150/1	Introduction Number	SB-639	Estimate Type	Original
Description Creating a legislative committee on the oversight of law enforcement and investigation					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under Senate Bill 639, a statutory Committee on the Oversight of Law Enforcement and Investigation would be created. The six-member committee would include two Legislators, appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, one legislator, appointed by the Assembly Minority Leader, two Legislators, appointed by the Senate Majority Leader, and one Legislator, appointed by the Senate Minority Leader. The Committee would be allowed to study issues related to law enforcement technology and investigation of crimes, and to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature. Under the bill, the Committee could review, for appropriate execution of legislative intent and proper conduct, an acquisition by a law enforcement agency of technology services or electronic devices that may be used to surveil a person. Law enforcement agencies would be required to notify the Committee of any acquisition, if the acquisition is of such services or devices that are not currently used by a Wisconsin law enforcement agency. Further, the bill allows the Committee to review a proposed transfer of military weapons, surveillance equipment, or armaments from a federal military unit to a Wisconsin law enforcement agency. Law enforcement agencies would be required to notify the Committee of any weapons, equipment, or armaments proposed for transfer. Finally, the bill provides the Committee with subpoena power and access to investigatory records from secret John Doe proceedings at the close of such proceedings if such access is necessary or convenient to carry out the duties and powers of the Committee.

It would appear that costs associated with creation and operation of the Committee under SB 639 could be addressed within the existing resources of the Legislature.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications