

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

CTS 2/8/2017

LRB Number	17-0523/1	Introduction Number	AB-0047	Estimate Type	Original
Description material misstatements on applications for certain credentials and providing a criminal penalty					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill creates a new criminal penalty for intentionally making a material misstatement or omission in an application for a credential (or its renewal) issued by the Department of Safety and Professional Services or for submitting falsified documentation in an application. The crime is a Class A misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$10,000 and/or imprisonment for up to nine months.

To determine the impact on required judicial resources, we have relied on the Wisconsin Judicial Workload Assessment 2016, submitted to the Director of State Courts by the National Center for State Courts. For this study, all Wisconsin judges and court commissioners participated in a time study designed to measure the time currently spent processing different types of cases from initial filing to final resolution. According to the study, misdemeanor cases took 39 minutes of judicial time. For purposes of comparison, the same study found felony cases took 197 minutes of judicial time and contested traffic or ordinance violations that result in forfeitures took 8 minutes of judicial time.

It is impossible to predict how many such crimes will be filed in the circuit courts. Additional proceedings require additional judge, court reporter, court staff and juror time. These costs are borne by both the state and the county. An accurate estimate of the additional costs of this proposal, and how those costs will be divided between the state and the counties, is impossible with the data available.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications