

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DCF 5/8/2017

LRB Number	17-0949/1	Introduction Number	AB-0288	Estimate Type	Original
Description eligibility for a job access loan to repair or purchase a vehicle					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under this bill, applicants for a Job Access Loan (JAL) for car repair or purchase would be required to have a current and valid driver's license, and applicants on probation, parole, or extended supervision would be required to have prior approval from their probation, parole, or extended supervision agent to receive the JAL.

An individual applies for a JAL with a Wisconsin Works (W-2) agency. Applicants are provided the W-2 informal assessment to gather information in order to determine strengths, skills, and support service needs. The W-2 informal assessment already includes questions to determine whether an applicant has a driver's license, is a fugitive felon, and is not in violation of a condition of probation, parole, or extended supervision imposed under state or federal law.

In calendar year 2016, there were 950 JAL applications for car repair or purchase. Of these, 439 were closed, denied, or withdrawn, netting 511 active applications. While it is unknown how many of these loans were granted to applicants who would be ineligible under this bill, given that the W-2 informal assessment already collects driver's license and probation, parole, and extended supervision data, the number is likely to be small.

W-2 agency staff can verify the validity of a license with information from the Department of Motor Vehicles. However, the number of applicants suggests this would not be a significant administrative burden. While this bill also requires applicants on probation, parole, or extended supervision to prove that they have prior approval from their probation, parole, or extended supervision agent to purchase a vehicle, the burden of providing supporting documentation would fall on the applicant, not on W-2 agency staff. Any increased costs associated with this bill could be absorbed by the W-2 agencies and would not lead to increased costs to DCF.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications