

Fiscal Estimate - 2021 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 21-4475/1	Introduction Number AB-0590
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Description
 prohibiting state agency employees, state elected officials, federal government agency employees, and certain state individuals holding a national office from influencing social media Internet sites to censor users and providing a penalty

Fiscal Effect

State:

No State Fiscal Effect
 Indeterminate

<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs
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Local:

No Local Government Costs
 Indeterminate

1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	5. Types of Local Government Units Affected <input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities <input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts
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Fund Sources Affected	Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations
<input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS	

Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

LFB 10/11/2021

LRB Number	21-4475/1	Introduction Number	AB-0590	Estimate Type	Original
Description prohibiting state agency employees, state elected officials, federal government agency employees, and certain state individuals holding a national office from influencing social media Internet sites to censor users and providing a penalty					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The bill would prohibit the following individuals from influencing or attempting to influence a social media Internet site to censor, deplatform, or shadow ban users on the social media Internet site: (1) state elected officials; (2) U.S. Senator or Representative of Congress elected to his or her office from Wisconsin; (3) state agency employees; and (4) federal government agency employees present in Wisconsin.

The bill includes the following definitions: (1) "censor" any action taken by a social media Internet site to delete, regulate, restrict, edit, alter, inhibit the publication or republication of, suspend a right to post, remove, or post an addendum to any content or material posted by a user, including actions to inhibit the ability of a user to be viewable by or to interact with another user of the social media Internet site; (2) "deplatforming" the deleting or banning a user from a social media Internet site for more than 60 days; (3) "shadow banning" the limiting or eliminating the exposure of a user, or content or material posted by a user, to other users of the social media Internet site through any means, regardless of whether the action is determined by an individual or an algorithm, and regardless of whether the action is readily apparent to a user; and (4) "state agency" an association, authority, board, department, commission, independent agency, institution, office, society, or other body in state government created or authorized to be created by the constitution or any law. The bill specifies that the elected public official, state agency employee, or federal agency employee would be required to pay a forfeiture of between \$1,000 and \$10,000 for each violation of the bill's prohibitions. Provisions of the bill would be enforced by the state Ethics Commission.

The definition of state agency would include members of the Legislature, legislative staff and staff of the legislative service agencies. However, since the Legislature is not responsible for administering provisions of the bill and the bill is applicable to individuals meeting certain criteria, the bill would have no fiscal effect on the Legislature.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications