



Legislative Fiscal Bureau

One East Main, Suite 301 • Madison, WI 53703 • (608) 266-3847 • Fax: (608) 267-6873
Email: fiscal.bureau@legis.wisconsin.gov • Website: <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/lfb>

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Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #575

Long-Term Vacancies (Safety and Professional Services -- Program Transfers)

[LFB 2015-17 Budget Summary: Page 393, #1 (part)]

CURRENT LAW

The Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) has base funding for 262.6 positions, primarily supported by program revenues.

GOVERNOR

As part of the transfer of DSPS functions to the Department of Financial Institutions and Professional Standards (DFIPS), reduce the number of positions transferred from DSPS to DFIPS on January 1, 2016, by 23.76 positions that have been vacant for six months or more, including 19.56 PR positions and 4.20 FED positions. Reduce associated funding in DFIPS by \$602,900 PR and \$124,100 FED in 2015-16 and \$1,205,800 PR and \$248,200 FED in 2016-17. No expenditure authority would be deleted in DSPS in 2015-16.

DISCUSSION POINTS

1. The positions identified by the administration for elimination had been vacant for six months or longer at the time the budget was developed. The bill eliminates the positions and associated funding effective January 1, 2016, when DSPS would be transferred to DFIPS.
2. On May 8, 2015, the Governor asked that the DSPS/DFI merger into DFIPS be removed from the bill. The 23.76 vacant DSPS positions that are eliminated under the merger would be restored to DSPS unless the Committee takes separate action to eliminate the positions and associated funding.

3. For other state agencies, the administration proposed eliminating positions that have been vacant for 12 months or more. For DSPS, positions that have been vacant for six months or more would be eliminated at the time of the proposed merger. The administration indicates that it assumed additional administrative efficiencies gained through the creation of DFIPS would allow the elimination of additional vacancies.

4. The following table identifies the positions intended to be eliminated under the bill, by appropriation, position classification, and the associated salary and fringe benefit costs for the positions. The table includes sections showing 13.96 positions funded from program revenue or federal revenue that have been vacant for twelve months or more and are identified for deletion instead of transfer to DFIPS, and a section showing an additional 9.80 program revenue positions identified for elimination that have been vacant for six months or more.

Positions Intended for Elimination Under the Bill's Merger

Positions Vacant for Twelve Months or Longer at Time of Identification

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Appropriation/Classification</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Salary and Fringe Costs</u>
PR	Professional services operations:		
	Payroll and benefits specialist	1.00	\$51,700 *
	Operations program associate	1.00	46,300 *
	Attorney supervisor	1.00	72,500
	License / permit program associate	1.00	46,300
	Paralegal	0.20	10,500
PR	Medical examining board operations :		
	Paralegal	0.50	25,700
PR	Safety and buildings (industry services) operations:		
	Boiler safety inspector	1.00	69,600 *
	Civil engineer	1.00	67,500 *
	Engineering consultant - building systems	1.00	67,500 *
	Office operations associate	1.00	42,800
	Plumbing consultant	1.00	68,300 *
PR	Interagency agreements:		
	License / permit program associate	<u>0.06</u>	<u>2,800</u>
	Subtotal PR	9.76	\$571,500
FED	Federal indirect cost reimbursements:		
	Information technical services specialist	1.00	85,700
	Shipping and mailing associate	1.00	39,500
	Budget and policy analyst	1.00	67,500
FED	Industry services federal operations :		
	Operations program associate	1.00	46,300
	License / permit program associate	<u>0.20</u>	<u>9,200</u>
	Subtotal FED	4.20	\$248,200
Subtotal -- Positions Vacant 12 Months or More		13.96	\$819,700

Additional Positions Vacant for Six Months or Longer at Time of Identification

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Appropriation/Classification</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Salary and Fringe Costs</u>
PR	Professional services operations:		
	Paralegal	0.80	\$41,400
	Program and policy analyst	1.00	67,500*
PR	Examinations operations: License / permit program associate	1.00	46,300
PR	Safety and buildings (industry services) operations:		
	Elevator safety inspector	1.00	69,600
	Plumbing plan reviewer	1.00	68,300*
	Program and policy chief	1.00	78,800
	Boiler safety inspector	1.00	69,600
	Engineering consultant - building systems	1.00	67,500*
PR	Industry services administrative services:		
	Information Network services specialist	1.00	73,500
	Program and policy analyst	<u>1.00</u>	<u>51,800</u>
	Subtotal -- PR Positions Vacant Six to Twelve Months	<u>9.80</u>	<u>\$634,300</u>
	Total Positions Vacant for Six Months or longer	23.76	\$1,454,000

*Position listed as filled on May 2, 2015.

5. It could be argued that it would be appropriate to treat DSPS in a consistent manner as other agencies. For example, if positions that have been vacant for a specific period of time are being deleted in most other agencies, it could be considered appropriate to delete similar vacancies in DSPS. Deletion of positions that have been vacant for more than 12 months would be consistent with the treatment for most other agencies.

6. As of May 2, 2015, nine of the 23.76 positions identified for deletion have been filled. These positions are shown in the table with an asterisk. However, the total number of vacant positions in DSPS equals 42.26, and the number of vacant positions in every appropriation exceeds the number of positions identified for deletion in the appropriation. The bill does not specify the positions that must be eliminated, but identifies the appropriation from which positions must be eliminated, and the number of positions that must be eliminated from each appropriation. The administration indicates that where a vacant position has been identified for elimination, but has subsequently been filled, DSPS would have the flexibility to identify another vacancy for elimination from the same appropriation.

7. The Committee could choose to eliminate the 23.76 positions and associated funding identified by the administration for elimination that have been vacant for six months or more [Alternative 1].

8. The Committee could choose to eliminate 13.96 positions that have been vacant for at

least 12 months consistent with most other executive branch agencies [Alternative 2].

ALTERNATIVES

1. Delete \$1,205,800 PR and \$248,200 FED annually with 19.56 PR positions and 4.20 FED positions, consistent with the Governor's recommendation to eliminate positions in DSPS that have been vacant six months or more.

ALT 1	Change to Bill	
	Funding	Positions
PR	- \$2,411,600	- 19.56
FED	<u>- 496,400</u>	<u>- 4.20</u>
Total	- \$2,908,000	- 23.76

2. Delete \$571,500 PR and \$248,200 FED annually with 9.76 PR positions and 4.20 FED positions to eliminate positions in DSPS that have been vacant 12 months or more.

ALT 2	Change to Bill	
	Funding	Positions
PR	- \$1,143,000	- 9.76
FED	<u>- 496,400</u>	<u>- 4.20</u>
Total	- \$1,639,400	- 13.96

Prepared by: Kendra Bonderud