Fiscal Estimate - 2021 Session

☐ Updated	Corrected Suppl	emental			
LRB Number 21-2446/1	Introduction Number AB-02	250			
Description Department of Revenue enforcement and providing a penalty					
Fiscal Effect					
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Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEGS					
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date			
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives DOA 5/13/2021

LRB Number 21-2446/1	Introduction Number	AB-0250	Estimate Type	Original		
Description						
Department of Revenue enforcement and providing a penalty						

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Assembly Bill 250 (AB-250) proposes certain changes to the way in which the Department of Revenue (DOR) enforces and administers the laws under its purview. Several of the provisions pertain to the issuance and holding of tobacco and liquor licenses, specifically the way in which they are granted, and the enforcement mechanisms by which DOR can address violations of current license laws. Certain other provisions under AB-250 concern the establishment of criminal penalties and the creation of standard form applications.

As pertaining to the Department of Administration (Department), the proposed creates a new administrative hearings procedure under which DOR may assess and collect administrative forfeitures for alcohol beverage violations.

Under current law, an assessment (violation) would be levied against an organized entity such as a corporation or a limited liability company for the violation of a singular member or employee, whereas the bill would allow DOR to directly assess, against a person, specified forfeitures for specified violations of alcohol beverage laws. To initiate the newly proposed administrative procedure DOR would need to first issue a notice of assessment (violation) to the person that includes the amount of the forfeiture, the alleged violation, and inform the individual of their right to a hearing. Under the bill, it would be the duty of the Department's Division of Hearings and Appeals (DHA) to hold hearings on these appeals, if the person issued a citation contests.

DHA is responsible for holding administrative hearings across the State including for a wide array of subject matter, including but not limited to corrections, worker's compensation, and general government appeals.

Generally, DHA has not handled the appeals on alcohol beverage permit assessments. The Department anticipates that the number of cases appealed and heard by DHA would increase as a result of AB-250. The caseload is estimated at a potential 10 appealed citations per year. The addition of this type of appeals, which is not currently typically administered by DHA, would require additional one-time and ongoing efforts from DHA staff reassigned from other adjudicatory functions to learn and administer hearings for this new functional area of law. The Department anticipates that the additional staff time is able to be absorbed under current existing DHA staff workloads.

DHA hearings services are authorized under s. 20.505(4)(kp), Wis. Stats., hearings and appeals fees, which under the proposed, would be funded by billings to the Department of Revenue to cover the costs of the services, as would be authorized under the newly created s. 227.43(3)(bt), Wis. Stats. Based upon the estimated increase to its caseload, the Department anticipates that it would be able to absorb the additional personnel time required within currently existing position and expenditure authority under s. 20.505(4)(kp), Wis. Stats.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications