## Fiscal Estimate - 2021 Session

☑ Original ☐ Updated	Corrected	Supplemental
LRB Number <b>21-1377/1</b>	Introduction Number SI	B-078
Description expungement of records of certain crimes and dis	scrimination based on expunged conviction	on
Fiscal Effect		
Appropriations	ease Existing absorb within age	May be possible to ency's budget
Permissive Mandatory Perm  2. Decrease Costs 4. Decre	5.Types of Local Go Units Affected issive Mandatory ease Revenue issive Mandatory	vernment Village Cities Others  WTCS Districts
Fund Sources Affected	Affected Ch. 20 Ap	propriations
GPR FED PRO PRS	SEG SEGS 20.550	
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date
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## Fiscal Estimate Narratives SPD 3/16/2021

LRB Number <b>21-1377/1</b>	Introduction Number	SB-078	Estimate Type	Original		
Description						
expungement of records of certain crimes and discrimination based on expunged conviction						

## **Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate**

The State Public Defender (SPD) is statutorily authorized and required to appoint attorneys to represent indigent defendants in criminal and certain commitment proceedings. The SPD plays a critical role in ensuring that the Wisconsin justice system complies with the right to counsel provided by both the state and federal constitutions. Any legislation has the potential to increase SPD costs if it creates a new criminal offense, expands the definition of an existing criminal offense, or increases the penalties for an existing offense.

Under current law, if a person who has not previously committed a felony commits a crime before the age of 25 that carries a maximum imprisonment term of six years of less, the court may, at sentencing, order the expungement of the criminal record upon completion of his or her sentence.

This bill removes the age criteria for expungement and allows a person to request expungement from the sentencing court at least one year after successful completion of his or her sentence if it was not ordered at the time of sentencing. If the court denies the first petition, the person may file a second petition two years after they filed the first petition and pay a \$100 fee to the county. A person may not file more than two petitions per crime and is limited to one criminal record expungement. This bill also allows the sentencing court to order a person's record ineligible for expungement and makes certain traffic crimes ineligible for expungement.

SPD may see some costs associated with former clients requesting files to apply for expunction but a total cost is indeterminate and likely able to be absorbed in the agency budget.

**Long-Range Fiscal Implications**