Wisconsin Department of Administration
Division of Executive Budget and Finance

Fiscal Estimate - 2021 Session

☑ Original ☐ Updated	Corrected Supplemental					
LRB Number 21-5281/1	Introduction Number SB-790					
Description penalties for possession of marijuana, employer liability for not drug testing employees and prospective employees, and providing a penalty						
Fiscal Effect						
Appropriations Rever	ase Existing absorb within agency's budget					
Permissive Mandatory Permissive Decrease Costs 4. Decre	5.Types of Local Government Units Affected Issive Mandatory Ease Revenue Issive Mandatory Ease Revenue Issive Mandatory Districts 5.Types of Local Government Units Affected Citie Counties Others Districts Districts					
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations						
GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEGS						
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature Date					
DA/ Kasey Deiss (608) 267-2700	Jana Steinmetz (608) 267-9634 1/8/2022					

Fiscal Estimate Narratives DA 1/8/2022

LRB Number 21-5281/1	Introduction Number	SB-790	Estimate Type	Original	
Description					
penalties for possession of marijuana, employer liability for not drug testing employees and prospective					
employees, and providing a penalty					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This fiscal estimate is submitted by the Director of the State Prosecutors Office on behalf of Agency 475 – District Attorneys. This fiscal estimate is responsive only to the fiscal and resource effect of the proposed legislation on the District Attorney program.

This bill reduces to a \$100 civil forfeiture the penalty for possessing or attempting to possess 14 grams or less of marijuana. The bill also eliminates counting, for the purposes of determining if a conviction is a repeat conviction, a criminal offense of marijuana possession involving 28 grams or less. The bill reduces the penalty for drug paraphernalia related to marijuana usage to a civil forfeiture of not more than \$10.

The bill, subject to certain exceptions, limits the liability of an employer that does not require an employee or prospective employee to submit to a test for the presence of any tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), which is the active ingredient in marijuana, synthetic cannabinoid, or a controlled substance analog to THC or a synthetic cannabinoid in his or her system (drug testing) as a condition of employment.

There exists a general concern among many District Attorneys that the decriminalization of marijuana or the relaxation of potential penalties associated with the possession of marijuana will increase usage and lead to increased incidences of drug impaired driving and drug impaired driving prosecutions statewide.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Responsive District Attorneys expect this proposed change to create additional workload for their offices. The full scope of that increase is unknown and would require further study.