



Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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May 10, 2007

Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #567

ALIS Management Systems (DNR -- Fish, Wildlife, and Recreation)

Bill Agency

[LFB 2007-09 Budget Summary: Page 412, #13]

CURRENT LAW

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) contracts with Central Bank Trust to operate the statewide Automated Licensing Issuance System (ALIS). ALIS is a computerized, on-line system for the sale of various DNR licenses, permits and approvals, primarily hunting and fishing licenses. In addition, the Department uses an automated system to process registrations for boats, all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles (BATS).

GOVERNOR

Provide \$179,000 in 2007-08 and \$95,800 in 2008-09 to upgrade the Automated Licensing Issuance System (ALIS) and to continue a master lease entered into in 2006-07 for updates to the Boat, ATV, and Snowmobile registration system (BATS). Create a continuing appropriation from the conservation fund into which ALIS contract fees are credited.

DISCUSSION POINTS

1. The bill includes \$108,200 in 2007-08 and \$25,000 in 2008-09 of one-time funding for equipment and data entry costs to integrate the natural resources citations, recreational safety records, and recreational vehicle registration databases into the existing ALIS database and to streamline the boat, all-terrain vehicle, and snowmobile registration system. Funding would be provided as shown in the following table:

TABLE 1

Funding Provided Under SB 40 by Account

| <u>Conservation Fund</u> | <u>2007-08</u> | <u>2008-09</u> |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Fish and Wildlife Account | \$82,200 | \$19,000 |
| Boat Account | 17,400 | 4,000 |
| Snowmobile Account | 6,100 | 1,400 |
| ATV Account | <u>2,500</u> | <u>600</u> |
| Total | \$108,200 | \$25,000 |

2. The Department argues that integrating these systems would streamline several DNR operations and eliminate delays caused by outsourced data entry. The Department indicates that integrating the citation system would result in wardens spending fewer hours preparing citations and costs related to arrest record processing would be reduced. Currently, DNR wardens utilize the Department of Justice's Transaction Information for the Management of Enforcement (TIME) system to conduct individual citation record searches. The TIME system allows a law enforcement officer to request that a dispatcher check a person's name and date of birth through the automated system to ascertain whether the person has a criminal history. However, often the individual's file is out of date. Additionally, wardens currently manually fill out and file arrest and disposition records. The Bureau of Law Enforcement is then responsible for receiving, coding, entering, and filing approximately 25,000 records per year. The Department currently spends approximately \$100,000 annually on citation recordkeeping (an estimated 1,000 hours annually in the central office and 2,000 to 3,000 hours in the field are devoted to preparing citations and arrest related recordkeeping). Natural Resources citation information is also entered by Circuit Courts for county purposes and for upload into the Consolidated Court Automation Programs (CCAP).

3. The bill would provide funding for the equipment and data integration costs as shown in Table 2.

TABLE 2

Data Integration Costs

| | <u>2007-08</u> | <u>2008-09</u> |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Mobile Printers | \$89,000 | \$0 |
| Printer Cables | 4,200 | 0 |
| Law Enforcement Safety Records and Boat, ATV and Snowmobile Vehicle Registration Data Integration | 15,000 | 15,000 |
| Electronic Citation Development via DOT-TRaCS | <u>0</u> | <u>10,000</u> |
| Total | \$108,200 | \$25,000 |

4. Funding of \$93,200 in 2007-08 would be provided to purchase mobile printers and printer cables for 207 wardens which would allow wardens to issue computer-generated citations in the field. Funding of \$10,000 on a one-time basis in 2008-09 would be provided to integrate the citations record system into the Department of Transportation's Traffic Citation System (TraCS) data entry and database system used by state troopers and develop an interface between the citations record system and CCAP. The TraCS system is installed on all state trooper laptop computers and allows troopers to prepare traffic citations on their laptops in the field. The citation data is then delivered to the respective clerk of Circuit Court and added to the court files. The Clerk of Court also uploads the traffic data to statewide files maintained by the Consolidated Court Automation Programs. CCAP also downloads traffic citation data to a DOT database for agency reporting and processing purposes. The Department argues that integrating the citations record system into TraCS would reduce the citation recordkeeping workload among wardens and Bureau of Law Enforcement staff. It would also eliminate the need for duplicate data entry by the Circuit Court clerk. While the Department currently has 208 credentialed positions authorized, 196 are currently filled. Alternatively, funding could be provided for 200 mobile printers and printer cables (providing printers for all active wardens with four spare printers in case of damage). Under this alternative, \$105,000 would be provided in 2007-08 for data integration costs (a reduction of \$3,200).

5. The bill would also provide funding of \$15,000 each year for integration of the DNR safety records system into ALIS and streamlining of the boat, all-terrain vehicle, and snowmobile registration customer information. The DNR safety records system is a database of all individuals certified through programs for hunter education, bow hunter education, boating, snowmobiling, and all-terrain vehicle safety education courses. Under the current system, one person may have up to five separate records (one for each type of safety course they were certified in). The Department plans to consolidate safety records and integrate them into the ALIS system resulting in one record per customer that links to licenses granted and certificates authorized. In addition, a single customer identification number would be used for the ALIS system and the BATS system (allowing customers and ALIS vendors to search for vehicle registration information online using the same ID number).

6. The remaining \$70,800 annually would be split-funded from the conservation fund to complete a master lease entered into in 2006-07 to upgrade the Boat, ATV, and Snowmobile registration system (BATS) as shown in Table 3.

TABLE 3

BATS Master Lease Payments

| | <u>2007-08</u> | <u>2008-09</u> |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Conservation Fund | | |
| Boat Account | 48,100 | 48,100 |
| ATV Account | 5,700 | 5,700 |
| Snowmobile Account | <u>17,000</u> | <u>17,000</u> |
| Total | \$70,800 | \$70,800 |

DNR was provided \$35,400 in 2003-04 to rewrite the coding language of the BATS system and \$70,800 in 2005-06 on a one-time basis to enter a master lease to upgrade the software for the BATS system. Currently, initial vehicle registrations for boats, all-terrain vehicles, and snowmobiles must be done by mail, but customers are able to renew their registrations online. When the upgrade is complete, the system will allow customers, DNR staff, and vehicle dealers to register and renew boats, ATV's, and snowmobiles and update personal information via the Internet. The system will also interface with several other systems, including the U.S. Coast Guard's Vessel Identification System, the Wisconsin Driver's License Database, and the Wisconsin Department of Revenue. The bill could provide funding for the second and third years of the four-year master lease and therefore could be provided on a one-time basis. (Remaining costs of approximately \$106,400 would need to be requested in the 2009-11 budget). While the bill would provide \$70,800 in each year, DNR indicates that, due to a revised master lease schedule, approximately \$53,600 would be needed in 2007-08 and \$71,000 in 2008-09. Therefore \$17,000 could be deleted in 2007-08.

7. In addition, the bill would create an appropriation for depositing ALIS contract fees. DNR contracts with a third party to operate the statewide automated license system. Under the contract, beginning in fiscal year 2007-08, the fee DNR pays for each license sold will be 83¢ (the Department currently pays 89¢). As a result of the re-negotiated contract, DNR anticipates annual savings of approximately \$200,000. Under current law, license fee revenues are deposited into the conservation fund, and the contract payments are made to the ALIS operator from an appropriation related to general operations of the Customer Service and Licensing subprogram in the Customer Assistance and Employee Services Division. Base funding of \$3.3 million is budgeted for ALIS contract fees in 2006-07. The bill would create a continuing appropriation into which the contract fee for each license sold that is owed to the ALIS operator would be deposited. The ALIS operator (Central Bank Trust) would then be paid the amounts due under the contract from this appropriation. (The bill would create the appropriation under the Land Division, rather than the intended Customer Assistance and Employee Services Division). In addition, the licensing appropriation could be reestimated to reflect the cost savings from the re-negotiation of the ALIS provider contract and the transfer of the contract fees from the licensing appropriation to the new ALIS appropriation. This would result in expenditures as shown in Table 4 (assuming a contract start date of March 1, 2008).

TABLE 4

ALIS Contract Reestimate

| | <u>Bill</u> | | <u>Reestimate</u> | | <u>Change to Bill</u> | |
|--|----------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| | <u>2007-08</u> | <u>2008-09</u> | <u>2007-08</u> | <u>2008-09</u> | <u>2008</u> | <u>2009</u> |
| ALIS Contract Fee | \$0 | \$0 | \$954,400 | \$2,892,000 | \$954,400 | \$2,892,000 |
| Customer Service and Licensing Operations | \$14,618,200 | \$14,580,300 | \$13,598,100 | \$11,489,100 | -\$1,020,100 | -\$3,091,200 |

8. Therefore, the bill could be modified to: (a) delete \$3,200 in 2007-08 relating to mobile printers; (b) delete \$17,000 in 2007-08 and make 2008-09 funding one-time related to the BATS master lease; and (c) delete \$65,700 in 2007-08 and \$199,200 in 2008-09 related to the ALIS system contract (Alternative 2).

ALTERNATIVES TO BILL

1. Adopt the Governor's recommendation to provide \$179,000 in 2007-08 and \$95,800 in 2008-09 (including \$25,000 of one-time funding) to integrate the natural resources citations, recreational safety records, and recreational vehicle registration databases into the existing ALIS database.

| ALT 1 | Change to Bill Funding | Change to Base Funding |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| SEG | \$0 | \$274,800 |

2. Modify the Governor's recommendation as follows: (a) delete \$3,200 in 2007-08 relating to mobile printers; (b) delete \$17,000 in 2007-08 and make 2008-09 funding one-time related to the BATS master lease; and (c) delete \$65,700 in 2007-08 and \$199,200 in 2008-09 related to a reestimate of the ALIS system contract.

| ALT 2 | Change to Bill Funding | Change to Base Funding |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| SEG | -\$285,100 | -\$10,300 |

3. Delete provision. (No additional funding for ALIS integration costs would be provided).

| ALT 3 | Change to Bill Funding | Change to Base Funding |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| SEG | - \$274,800 | \$0 |

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