

Fiscal Estimate - 2021 Session

Original Updated Corrected Supplemental

LRB Number 21-5417/1	Introduction Number AB-0835	
Description waivers for hunting, fishing, camping, and state park admission fees for law enforcement officers		
Fiscal Effect		
State:		
<input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs		
Local:		
<input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue 5. Types of Local Government Units Affected <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts		
Fund Sources Affected		
<input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS		
Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations		
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date
DNR/ Paul Neumann (608) 266-0818	Paul Neumann (608) 266-0818	1/18/2022

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DNR 1/18/2022

LRB Number 21-5417/1	Introduction Number AB-0835	Estimate Type Original
Description waivers for hunting, fishing, camping, and state park admission fees for law enforcement officers		

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The bill has several provisions:

1. Annual vehicle admission fees: The bill requires the department to waive annual vehicle admission fees for any state park or in certain state recreational areas for a vehicle owned by a law enforcement officer.
2. Memorial Day weekend vehicle admission fees: The bill requires the department to waive, during the three-day weekend that includes Memorial Day, vehicle admission fees for any state park or in certain state recreational areas for a vehicle that is occupied by a law enforcement officer.
3. Memorial Day weekend camping fees: The bill requires the department to waive camping fees for law enforcement officers during the three-day Memorial Day weekend.
4. Annual fishing and deer hunting license fees: The bill requires the department to issue free annual fishing licenses or deer hunting licenses to applicants who are law enforcement officers.
5. The fee waivers included in this bill do not apply after July 1, 2023.
6. The bill requires the governor to allocate moneys received under the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 to the department to replace revenue lost as a result of providing the waivers under the bill.

I. Assumptions

- A. According to the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ), there are 13,343 sworn law enforcement officers in the state that would be eligible for the fee waivers specified in the bill.
- B. It is unknown how many officers would opt to request the fee waivers specified in the bill.
- C. Since evidence of being a sworn law enforcement officer is required prior to receiving a free or deer hunting license, these license products would be made available at DNR Service Centers only. It is anticipated that each transaction for issuing free law enforcement license would require 10-15 minutes of department staff time to complete.
- D. The department interprets the bill to mean that an officer could qualify for up to 6 fee waivers: gun deer license, archer/crossbow deer license, annual fishing license, annual vehicle admission park pass, Memorial Day weekend vehicle admission park pass, and Memorial Day weekend camping.
- E. The availability and eligibility of ARPA funds for this purpose would need to be validated.

II. Costs

A. Bureau of Customer & Outreach Services (applicable to implementing the fishing and deer hunting license fee waivers)

1. The department would create on the effective date of the bill, and subsequently remove on June 30, 2023, the zero cost annual fishing license and deer license (archer/crossbow or gun deer) in the Go Wild statewide licensing system. This would require an estimated 40 hours of staff time for a business analyst at \$50/hr. salary and fringe benefits, for an estimated one-time implementation cost of \$2,000.
2. The department would be required to establish new accounting codes and procedures to track the free license products to ensure an accurate ARPA fund reimbursement. Establishment of these codes and coordinating the ARPA reimbursement would require an estimated 20 hours of staff time for a business analyst

at \$50/hr. salary and fringe benefits, for an estimated one-time implementation cost of \$1,000.

3. The department would be required to train each Customer Service Representatives (CSR) on the new product offerings and eligibility requirements.

a. CSR training would require an estimated 10 hours of staff time for a policy advisor at \$50/hr. salary and fringe benefits, for an estimated one-time implementation cost of \$500.

b. CSR training would also require an estimated 1 hour of staff time for 100 CSR staff at \$24/hr. salary and fringe benefits, for an estimated one-time implementation cost of \$2,400.

4. An estimated 10-15 minutes of staff time will be required to complete each free license transaction for eligible law enforcement officers. Since it is unknown how many law enforcement officers will opt to obtain free licenses, the one-time staffing cost for completing the transactions is indeterminate.

5. In summary, total one-time implementation costs are estimated at \$5,900, plus the indeterminate cost for completing each free license transaction at a DNR Service Center.

B. Bureau of Parks and Recreation (applicable to implementing the admission fee and campsite fee waivers)

1. The department estimates that it would require 15 minutes of staff time to issue a free park admission pass for an eligible law enforcement officer--includes time to review, enter data, issue stickers and track participation.

2. The department estimates that it would require 15 minutes of staff time to process a free campsite reservation for an eligible law enforcement officer--includes time to take a reservation over the phone through the call center and to track participation.

III. Revenue

A. State License Revenue

The overall revenue impact is indeterminate because there is no way to accurately estimate participation rates among eligible law enforcement officers for the fee exemptions. In lieu of that information, the upper end, maximum annual revenue impacts, which apply to both FY 2022 and FY 2023, are itemized as follows:

1. Gun Deer License Fees: If all law enforcement officers opt to obtain a free annual gun deer license, the bill would result in a maximum one-time annual reduction in Fish & Wildlife Account revenue of \$283,600, and a corresponding federal ARPA reimbursement of \$283,600 (\$21.25/license x 13,343).

2. Archer/Crossbow Deer License Fees: If all law enforcement officers opt to obtain a free annual archer/crossbow deer license, the bill would result in a maximum one-time annual reduction in Fish & Wildlife Account revenue of \$283,600, and a corresponding federal ARPA reimbursement of \$283,600 (\$21.25/license x 13,343).

3. Fishing License Fees: If all law enforcement officers opt to obtain a free annual fishing license, the bill would result in a maximum one-time annual reduction in Fish & Wildlife Account revenue of \$256,900, and a corresponding federal ARPA reimbursement of \$256,900 (\$19.25/license x 13,343).

4. Annual Vehicle Admission Fees: If all law enforcement officers opt to obtain a free vehicle admission pass for state parks, the bill would result in a maximum one-time annual reduction in Parks Account and Forestry Account revenue of \$367,000, and a corresponding federal ARPA reimbursement of \$367,000 (\$27.50/admission pass x 13,343).

5. Memorial Day Weekend Vehicle Admission Fees: the department cannot accurately estimate the number of vehicles occupied by a law enforcement officer that would opt to obtain a free vehicle admission pass for state parks during the Memorial Day weekend. Therefore, the fiscal impact of this fee waiver is indeterminate.

6. Memorial Day Weekend Camping Fees: At last count, there are a total of 6,462 reservable campsites in state parks, state forests and flowages. If law enforcement officers reserved all campsites per the fee exemption, the bill would result in a maximum reduction in Parks and Forestry Account revenue of \$184,000 for FY 2022 (partial year max effect) and \$368,000 for FY 2023 (full year max effect), along with a corresponding federal ARPA reimbursement of those same maximum amounts. This assumes a \$90 three-night fee waiver for an electrified campsite (\$30/night x 3) and a \$45 three-night fee waiver for a non-electrified

campsite (\$15/night x 3).

B. Federal Sport Fish Restoration (SFR) and Pittman Robertson (PR) Grant Revenue

Federal funds apportioned to states via the SFR and PR grant programs are based on formulas that include the number of paid license holders in the state. Licenses that are reimbursed by a federal funding source, such as ARPA, would be excluded from the funding formula, thereby decreasing the number of certified hunting/fishing license-holders and thus reducing the state's SFR and PR apportionment.

Therefore, the department estimates that it would lose \$10 of SFR funding for every free fishing license issued under the bill and \$24 of PR funding for every free hunting license issued under the bill.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Wisconsin Department of Administration
 Division of Executive Budget and Finance

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2021 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

Original Updated Corrected Supplemental

LRB Number 21-5417/1	Introduction Number AB-0835	
Description waivers for hunting, fishing, camping, and state park admission fees for law enforcement officers		
I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect): Bureau of Customer & Outreach Services: Estimated one-time implementation costs of \$5,900 for the fishing and hunting license exemption, plus indeterminate one-time costs at DNR Service Centers for completing free license transactions. Parks and Recreation: Indeterminate costs to implement and track park admission and campsite fee exemptions.		
II. Annualized Costs:		Annualized Fiscal Impact on funds from:
	Increased Costs	Decreased Costs
A. State Costs by Category		
State Operations - Salaries and Fringes	\$	\$
(FTE Position Changes)		
State Operations - Other Costs		
Local Assistance		
Aids to Individuals or Organizations		
TOTAL State Costs by Category	\$	\$
B. State Costs by Source of Funds		
GPR		
FED		
PRO/PRS		
SEG/SEG-S		
III. State Revenues - Complete this only when proposal will increase or decrease state revenues (e.g., tax increase, decrease in license fee, etc.)		
	Increased Rev	Decreased Rev
GPR Taxes	\$	\$
GPR Earned		
FED		
PRO/PRS		
SEG/SEG-S		
TOTAL State Revenues	\$	\$
NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT		
	<u>State</u>	<u>Local</u>
NET CHANGE IN COSTS	\$	\$
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE	\$	\$
Agency/Prepared By DNR/ Paul Neumann (608) 266-0818		Authorized Signature Paul Neumann (608) 266-0818
		Date 1/18/2022