

Fiscal Estimate - 2021 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 21-5786/1	Introduction Number AB-0998	
Description verifying citizenship of individuals on the official voter registration list and contents of operator's licenses and identification cards		
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 type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" 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 <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory		
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS		
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date
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5.Types of Local Government
 Units Affected
 Towns Village Cities
 Counties Others
 School Districts WTCS Districts

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

ELEC 2/21/2022

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Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under this bill, WEC would be required to access DMV data, including specific data elements such as the citizenship self-certification that would be necessary in order to use the SAVE Program to verify citizenship. WEC and the DMV would need to develop technical infrastructure to facilitate the match and exchange of information. Current statutory fee waivers for WEC's use of DMV data would require expansion to include SAVE matching in order to be cost effective.

Once it was determined how many voters' information needed to be verified for citizenship status using the SAVE database those searches would need to be completed by WEC staff. Access to the database requires a Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Homeland Security who administers the database prior to access. Once the MOA was complete, WEC would have to pay a monthly fee of \$25.00 for each month where searches were conducted. Each initial search has a transaction fee of \$.50 and if that search requires additional verification the agency would incur and additional \$.50 fee per each of those transactions.

WEC's predecessor agency conducted research on SAVE implementation in in 2012 and published a full report on a potential implementation that is available on the WEC website here: <https://elections.wi.gov/publications/reports/save-fact-finding-team-final-report>. This report identified four major cost categories for implementing this requirement:

- Staff Costs
- Fees to USDHS for the SAVE Searches
- Information Technology Costs
- Administrative Costs

The report also provided total estimated costs for the use of SAVE, including start-up and the first five years of operation, are estimated at \$1.19 million, but those estimated costs are based on assumptions outlined in the report. The actual cost for facilitating the review of additional DMV data and the implementing of citizenship checks using the SAVE database would depend on the specifics of the program that was developed, including the Information Technology costs for upgrading WEC's connection to the DMV database, staff costs for creating and implementing the program and any costs associated with contacting voters regarding the results of any action taken to their voter record based on SAVE and DMV data. A more detailed fiscal estimate can be prepared once those details are available.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications