

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DOC 3/18/02

LRB Number 01-3894/1	Introduction Number SB-489	Estimate Type Original
Subject Penalties for violating sex offender registry reporting requirements		

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill increases the maximum confinement time of a sex offender convicted of knowingly refusing to register with Wisconsin's sex offender registry from up to 9 months in a county jail to up to five years in a prison. This bill also increases the maximum confinement time from up to five years in prison to up to ten years in prison for every subsequent offense.

When a sex offender does not register with Wisconsin's sex offender registry, Department staff refer the case to the District Attorney of the county in which the offender resides. District Attorneys may or may not choose to prosecute the offender for this offense.

During calendar year (CY) 2001, 150 cases were referred to District Attorneys around the State. The Department does not maintain records indicating how many of these offenders were sentenced to jail terms. A single offender was admitted to prison for a second or subsequent offense of non-registry during this same time period.

It is unclear if the number of individuals sentenced to prison would increase under the provisions of this bill. It should be noted that to the extent this bill would increase prison populations, additional resources would be required.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications