

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DOT 1/19/2010

LRB Number	09-3894/1	Introduction Number	SB-428	Estimate Type	Original
Description Seasonal weight limitations for certain vehicles transporting agricultural crops					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

2005 Wisconsin Act 364 governing Wisconsin Statute 348.17 generally replaced what had become rather routine seasonal agricultural emergency declarations. Until May 2006, the Secretary of Transportation had authority to raise vehicle weight limits by declaring agricultural emergencies. The Act eliminated that authority and instead fixed a seasonal weight limit exemption for agricultural vehicles. The Act provided certain vehicles or vehicle combinations transporting agricultural crops could, without a permit, exceed weight limits by not more than 15 percent from September 1 to November 30 of each year. The current SB-428 would extend the annual end date for a weight limit exception from November 30 to December 31.

The impact of this bill is assumed to be essentially the same as the effect of declaring "agricultural emergencies" on a regular basis for the period December 1 to December 31. For example, Governor Doyle signed Executive Order #301 on November 25, 2009, extending the seasonal weight exemption in Wisconsin Statutes 348.17(5) to December 30 for calendar year 2009. No information is available to identify any differential impact from this bill as contrasted to the practice of declaring emergencies for the period December 1 to December 31.

This bill is assumed to have no impact on the demand or use of other permits for fruits and vegetables.

This bill does, however, extend the exemption for portions of Interstate 39, which could result in a loss of \$201,200,659 in federal highway money. When USH 51 was designated Interstate Highway 39, federal law allowed Wisconsin to retain vehicle weight limits already in effect when the highway was designated an interstate highway, rather than applying the vehicle weight limits that ordinarily apply to interstate highways. This bill creates a new period of weight limit exemptions for I-39 that are not authorized by federal law. This could result in lost federal highway revenues.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

The fiscal effect is expected to be negligible with the exception of its application to portions of I-39. The bill extends the time period for providing special consideration for heavier loads that are not allowed on the highway system at other times of the year. Some additional transport at higher weights may be expected, accelerating wear on state and local roads. Generally, retaining the current limitations respecting weight limits posted on the roadway and local class B weight designations will protect vulnerable roads from undue damage from transport of these harvest commodities. Application to portions of I-39 may result in lost federal highway moneys estimated at \$201,200,659 annually.

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2009 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 09-3894/1		Introduction Number SB-428	
Description Seasonal weight limitations for certain vehicles transporting agricultural crops			
I. One-time Costs or Revenue Impacts for State and/or Local Government (do not include in annualized fiscal effect):			
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			-201,200,659
PRO/PRS			
SEG/SEG-S			
TOTAL State Revenues	\$		\$-201,200,659
NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT			
	State		Local
NET CHANGE IN COSTS	\$		\$
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE	\$-201,200,659		\$
Agency/Prepared By		Authorized Signature	Date
DOT/ Scott Bush (608) 266-8666		Julie Johnson (608) 267-3703	1/19/2010