Fiscal Estimate - 2019 Session

☑ Original ☐ Updated	Corrected	Supplemental			
LRB Number 19-1025/1	Introduction Number	AB-0016			
Description committing a fifth or sixth offense related to operati	ing a vehicle while intoxicated and p	roviding a penalty			
Fiscal Effect					
Appropriations	ase Existing absorb within	and the same of th			
2. Decrease Costs 4. Decrease	sive Mandatory Towns				
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations GPR PRO PRO SEG SEGS 20.550					
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date			
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives SPD 2/22/2019

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Description						
committing a fifth or sixth offense related to operating a vehicle while intoxicated and providing a penalty						

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The State Public Defender (SPD) is statutorily authorized and required to appoint attorneys to represent indigent defendants in criminal and certain commitment proceedings. The SPD plays a critical role in ensuring that the Wisconsin justice system complies with the right to counsel provided by both the state and federal constitutions. Any legislation has the potential to increase SPD costs if it creates a new criminal offense, expands the definition of an existing criminal offense, or increases the penalties for an existing offense.

Under current law, it is an OWI offense to operate a motor vehicle while under the influence of an intoxicant, a controlled substance, a controlled substance analog, or any combination thereof, under the influence of any substance to a degree that renders him or her incapable of safely driving, with a detectable amount of a restricted controlled substance in his or her blood, or with a prohibited alcohol concentration. Under current law, a person who commits a fifth or sixth OWI offense is guilty of a Class G felony and may be fined up to \$25,000, imprisoned for up to ten years, or both. Under current law, a person who commits a fifth or sixth OWI offense must be fined at least \$600 and imprisoned for at least six months.

Under this bill, for a fifth or sixth OWI offense, a sentencing court is required to impose a sentence that orders the person to spend at least 18 months confined in prison.

Because the bill imposes mandatory minimum penalties for an already existing crime, it is unlikely that the bill will result in significant additional cost to the SPD. There may be a slight cost increase as extended threat of incarceration may cause an increase in the number of cases resolved by trial rather than plea.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications