

FISCAL ESTIMATE

ORIGINAL UPDATED

LRB or Bill No./Adm. Rule No.
Assembly Bill 113 (99-1684/1)

DOA-2048 (R10/92)

CORRECTED SUPPLEMENTAL

Amendment No. If Applicable

Subject: The display of the U.S. flag and offering the pledge of allegiance or the national anthem in public and private schools.

Fiscal Effect

State: No State Fiscal Effect

Check columns below only if bill makes a direct appropriation or affects a sum sufficient appropriation

- Increase Existing Appropriation Increase Existing Revenues
 Decrease Existing Appropriation Decrease Existing Revenues
 Create New Appropriation

- Increase Costs-May be possible to Absorb
 Within Agency's Budget Yes No
 Decrease Costs

Local: No local government costs

1. Increase Costs
 Permissive Mandatory
 2. Decrease Costs
 Permissive Mandatory

3. Increase Revenues
 Permissive Mandatory
 4. Decrease Revenues
 Permissive Mandatory

5. Types of Local Governmental Units Affected:
 Towns Villages Cities
 Counties Others _____
 School Districts WTCS Districts

Fund Sources Affected

- GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEG-S

Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Currently, every public and private school must display the U.S. flag in the schoolroom or on a flagstaff located on school grounds. This bill requires the flag to be displayed in every public and private school classroom.

Currently, every public and private school must offer the pledge of allegiance in grades one to eight at the beginning of school at least one day per week. However, no pupil may be compelled to recite the pledge. This bill requires that the pledge of allegiance or the national anthem be offered in grades one to 12 at the beginning of each school day. No pupil may be compelled to recite the pledge or sing the anthem.

Costs to local school districts as a result of this bill are indeterminable. In the 1997-98 school year, Wisconsin's 2,073 public schools were required to display at least one U.S. flag. Assuming that an average school contains 20 classrooms, this bill would require a total of 41,460 U.S. flags to be displayed in Wisconsin public schools. Prices for flag kits (including flags and brackets) may range from \$5 to \$15 each. At an average cost of \$10 to equip each classroom with a flag, costs to local school districts may total \$414,600. However, since some school districts may currently display flags in classrooms, and some local veterans' groups may donate flags to schools, costs to a particular district may range from zero to perhaps several thousand dollars in large districts. (Wisconsin's 993 private schools may also incur additional costs under provisions of this bill, but these costs are indeterminable.)

The bill's provision requiring that public and private schools offer the pledge of allegiance or the national anthem in grades one to 12 each school day may reduce instructional time available, but is not anticipated to have a fiscal effect.

There is no state fiscal effect as a result of this bill.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

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