

### Fiscal Estimate - 2005 Session

Original     
  Updated     
  Corrected     
  Supplemental

**LRB Number 05-4370/1**     
 **Introduction Number SB-538**

**Description**  
 Campaign financing, lobbying regulation, designations for the Wisconsin election campaign fund by individuals filing state income tax returns, nonrefundable income tax credits for certain donations to the Wisconsin election campaign fund, candidate time on public broadcasting television stations and public access channels, statewide voter registration, staffing of the Elections Board, providing exemptions from emergency rule procedures, granting rule-making authority, making appropriations, and providing penalties

**Fiscal Effect**

**State:**

No State Fiscal Effect  
 Indeterminate

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs
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**Local:**

No Local Government Costs  
 Indeterminate

1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<b>5. Types of Local Government Units Affected</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities <input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts
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**Fund Sources Affected**     
 **Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations**

GPR  
  FED  
  PRO  
  PRS  
  SEG  
  SEGS 20.510

<b>Agency/Prepared By</b>	<b>Authorized Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
ELB/ Kevin Kennedy (608) 266-8005	Kevin Kennedy (608) 266-8005	2/12/2006

## Fiscal Estimate Narratives

ELB 2/13/2006

LRB Number	05-4370/1	Introduction Number	SB-538	Estimate Type	Original
<b>Description</b> Campaign financing, lobbying regulation, designations for the Wisconsin election campaign fund by individuals filing state income tax returns, nonrefundable income tax credits for certain donations to the Wisconsin election campaign fund, candidate time on public broadcasting television stations and public access channels, statewide voter registration, staffing of the Elections Board, providing exemptions from emergency rule procedures, granting rule-making authority, making appropriations, and providing penalties					

### Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This legislation makes several changes in campaign finance law. For purposes of this fiscal estimate it is assumed that the law will be in place for the 2006 elections, but no additional check off money will be available. The increased check off will be in place for the 2007 and subsequent elections. For purposes of determining the amount of funding necessary for the WECF grants it is assumed the following number of candidates will qualify for and receive grants:

#### 2006 General Grant Amount

Governor 0  
Lieutenant Governor 0  
Attorney General 2 630,000  
State Treasurer 2 112,500  
Secretary of State 2 112,500  
State Senator 22 990,000  
State Representative 125 2,181,500 4,026,500 total

#### 2006/2007 Spring and special elections

Supreme Court 4 540,000  
State Superintendent 2 225,000  
State Senator 2 90,000  
State Representative 4 90,000 945,000 total

This estimate assumes no additional WECF grant funds will be distributed to counter independent expenditures or excess spending by opponents of candidates that accept a grant. This estimate also assumes no additional WECF grant funds will be distributed for primary campaigns. Based on current check off levels, the amount projected as available for use in the 2006 and 2007 campaigns is \$1,500,000. The balance of \$3,471,500 will have to come from the general fund.

The legislation appropriates \$85,100 for 2 staff positions for the Elections Board. Realistically the agency needs to add an additional 2.5 positions to meet the requirements of the legislation. This adds \$125,000 in staff related costs.

Additional administrative costs include development of a campaign information system (\$3,000,000 first year development costs) and one time costs for revision of forms, manuals and training materials (\$2,500).

### Long-Range Fiscal Implications

It will require \$2,500,000 in annual funding to keep the office accounts funded at the expected participation level. This assumes no additional WECF grant funds will be distributed to counter independent expenditures or excess spending by opponents of candidates that accept a grant. The \$5 check off will generate \$1,250,000. The balance will have to be made up from the general fund. The campaign information system will require annual support costs of \$409,300.