

### Fiscal Estimate - 2007 Session

Original     
  Updated     
  Corrected     
  Supplemental

<b>LRB Number</b> <b>07-3284/6</b>	<b>Introduction Number</b> <b>AB-0930</b>
<b>Description</b> Milwaukee Parental Choice Program; a school assessment guide; the operation of, and insurance requirements related to, school buses and alternative methods of pupil transportation; making an appropriation; and providing a penalty.	
<b>Fiscal Effect</b>	
<b>State:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs	
<b>Local:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs      3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue <b>5.Types of Local Government Units Affected</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs      4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory <input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts	
<b>Fund Sources Affected</b> <b>Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGs            20.255 (1)(dw); 20.255 (1)(hg); 20.225(2)(fv) (proposed)	
<b>Agency/Prepared By</b> DPI/ Michael TeRonde (608) 266-5186	<b>Authorized Signature</b> Michael Bormett (608) 266-2804
<b>Date</b> 4/23/2008	

## Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DPI 4/23/2008

LRB Number	<b>07-3284/6</b>	Introduction Number	<b>AB-0930</b>	Estimate Type	<b>Original</b>
<b>Description</b> Milwaukee Parental Choice Program; a school assessment guide; the operation of, and insurance requirements related to, school buses and alternative methods of pupil transportation; making an appropriation; and providing a penalty.					

### Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The bill makes a number of changes in the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP), under which a student who resides in the City of Milwaukee may attend a private school at state expense under certain conditions. Issues that would have a fiscal impact are discussed below.

### STATE FISCAL EFFECT

#### Teacher licensing:

Beginning in the 2009-10 school year, this bill directs each private school participating in the MPCP to ensure that every teacher, supervisor, administrator, and professional staff member holds a license or a permit to teach issued by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI). Currently, persons are not required to be licensed to teach in any private school.

The department's fee for all licenses is \$100 per year except for those who have completed their training outside of Wisconsin (\$150). This money would be used to support the agency's licensing and program approval operations. The department does not have data regarding how many teachers, supervisors, administrators, and professional staff members serve in MPCP schools. Therefore, the amount of revenue the department would realize if this provision of the bill becomes law is indeterminate.

Pupil assessment: Current law requires each private school participating in the MPCP to administer a nationally normed standardized test in reading, mathematics, and science to pupils attending the school under the program in the fourth, eighth, and tenth grades. This bill requires each private school participating in the MPCP to administer the examinations adopted or approved by DPI. Moreover, the federal No Child Left Behind Act requires public school assessments in reading and mathematics in each of grades three to eight and at least once in grades ten to twelve; and in science at least once in grades three to five, six to nine, and ten to twelve. This bill imposes these requirements on private schools participating in the MPCP for pupils attending the schools under the MPCP. Private schools must be scored separately, and not along with the public school scoring, so results for private schools do not skew public school scores. Private schools, including MPCP schools, currently must pay Wisconsin's assessment contractor, CTB/McGraw-Hill, \$32 per-student for use of the exams. This fee includes publication of WKCE test materials, shipping and handling of test materials to the school's site, pick-up service for the test materials, scoring of the tests, and delivery of the scoring reports. Therefore, the current total estimated state per administration cost would be \$615,100 GPR, based on the 2007 third Friday in September MPCP headcount of 19,223 (\$32 times 19,223 students). It should be noted that the \$32 per-student fee may rise before the 2009-10 school year, when this program would begin according to the terms of the bill. Costs would also increase if more students are enrolled in MPCP in the 2009-10 school year than is presently the case.

This bill creates a sum sufficient appropriation in DPI to pay the costs of acquiring, administering, and scoring the examinations.

State Assessment Guide: Under the terms of the bill, the department is to develop a guide for parents to use in assessing public and private schools, including charter schools. The guide shall include information on how to evaluate the academic performance of pupils enrolled in a school, a school's academic opportunities, a school's expenditures per enrolled pupil, the education and experience levels of teachers, and the opportunities for parental involvement in a school and classroom, and may include additional information. In developing the guide the department shall consult with the Wisconsin Association of School Boards, the

Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators, the Wisconsin Charter Schools Association, the Wisconsin Council of Religious and Independent Schools, the Wisconsin Education Association Council, and School Choice Wisconsin, Inc. The department shall post the guide on its Internet site and make copies of the guide available to schools upon request.

It would be necessary to hire a one year project position to complete this assignment. The position would be an Education Consultant. The department expects it will take 600 hours to complete this project, at an estimated cost of \$25,000. Print and postage costs are indeterminate because the number of schools requesting a hard copy, the number of pages in the document, and the amount of postage it would take to send a hard copy through the U.S. mail, are all unknown.

#### LOCAL FISCAL EFFECT

**Pupil Records:** The bill requires MPCP schools to maintain records for each pupil attending the school under the MPCP while the pupil attends the school and for at least five years thereafter. The bill further requires the private school to provide a copy of the records to the pupil or the pupil's parent and guardian upon request and, if the school closes, to transfer the records to MPS. It is anticipated that MPS can absorb the cost of doing so.

**MPCP Cost Report:** The bill requires MPS to report annually to the legislature the costs it incurred in the previous school year in connection with the MPCP, including transportation costs and costs of providing special education to pupils attending private schools under the MPCP. It is anticipated that MPS can absorb the cost of completing this report.

#### NO FISCAL IMPACT

Changes that have no state or local fiscal impact would be the sections dealing with disclosure requirements, accreditation, exclusion of private schools from the MPCP, transportation and insurance, pupil academic standards, and fraudulent representations. Only the MPCP schools, which are privately operated, would bear costs under these provisions.

#### **Long-Range Fiscal Implications**