

Fiscal Estimate - 2015 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 15-4694/1	Introduction Number AB-0957
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Description Testing for lead in homes of certain children and making an appropriation

Fiscal Effect	
State:	
<input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect	
<input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues
<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations	<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues
<input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations	<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
Local:	
<input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs	
<input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate	
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs	3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs	4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory
5. Types of Local Government Units Affected	
<input type="checkbox"/> Towns	<input type="checkbox"/> Village
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Counties	<input type="checkbox"/> Others
<input type="checkbox"/> School Districts	<input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cities	

Fund Sources Affected	Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS 20.435 (1) (ef)	

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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DHS 5/13/2016

LRB Number	15-4694/1	Introduction Number	AB-0957	Estimate Type	Original
Description					
Testing for lead in homes of certain children and making an appropriation					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, the Department is required to conduct a lead investigation if a dwelling occupant under six years of age has a blood lead level (BLL) of at least twenty micrograms per deciliter (mcg/dL), as confirmed by one blood test, or fifteen mcg/dL, as confirmed by two blood tests performed 90 days apart. Wis. Stat. 254.11(8s) defines a lead investigation as a measure or set of measures designed to identify the presence of lead or lead hazards, which can include examination of water based on the professional judgment of the lead hazard investigator.

AB 957 reduces the BLL at which the Department is required to conduct a lead investigation to five mcg/dL, as well as requiring water and lead-paint hazard testing to be mandatory components of a lead investigation. According to the 2014 Report on Childhood Lead Poisoning in Wisconsin, there were 170 children with an elevated blood lead level (EBLL) as defined in Wis. Stat. 254.11(5m) in 2014, while 3,922 children had a BLL of 5 or more mcg/dL, representing a 23 fold increase in the number of lead investigations that will be required.

Through contractual agreements with DHS, the local health departments (LHDs) conduct the majority of the required lead investigations as agents of DHS. In 2016, DHS distributed \$769,700 to LHDs through a risk-based formula that allocates more funding to areas with the greatest need. The LHDs use this funding to provide screening, care coordination, lead investigations, follow-up services and education and outreach.

The Department requires Environmental Health Specialists - Advanced (EHS) to oversee the EBLL property investigations, provide training, technical assistance and consultation to LHD staff, and monitor the investigation reports that are submitted to ensure the EBLL investigations are conducted in a timely manner and the lead hazard reduction work is completed. Lowering the BLL at which DHS is required to conduct lead investigations will increase the program's workload by 23 fold, which requires an additional 2.0 FTE GPR EHS to conduct this work, assuming the LHDs continue to absorb the same proportion of workload. The total cost of the additional 2.0 FTE GPR EHS would come to \$157,700 GPR annually.

Many of the LHDs will need to hire new staff to conduct the additional investigations in their jurisdictions. Should they not receive sufficient funding to absorb the additional workload, the Department would have to hire additional EHS FTE in order comply with the statute. The cost of the initial lead hazard investigation, including environmental sampling, averages \$1,000. The cost of the clearance investigation averages \$200. The total cost of conducting an additional 3,752 investigations and follow up clearance investigations is estimated to be \$4,502,400. The cost of testing lead in water is \$29 per sample. The cost of conducting at least one water test for 3,922 investigations would be \$113,700.

The bill provides \$500,000 GPR for the additional required lead investigations. However, under the requirements of this bill, there would be more than \$4 million in expenses that the Department would not be able to absorb. Local health departments would also be impacted by this bill, due to the increase in required investigations within their jurisdiction.

It is possible that increased lead investigations over several years could result in further abatement of lead hazards. Fewer lead hazards could result in fewer children with elevated levels, and in turn, need for fewer investigations.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2015 Session

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

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Description			
Testing for lead in homes of certain children and making an appropriation			
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		\$135,700	\$
(FTE Position Changes)		(2.0 FTE)	
State Operations - Other Costs		22,000	
Local Assistance		4,616,100	
Aids to Individuals or Organizations			
TOTAL State Costs by Category		\$4,773,800	\$
B. State Costs by Source of Funds			
GPR		4,773,800	
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			
PRO/PRS			
SEG/SEG-S			
TOTAL State Revenues		\$	\$
NET ANNUALIZED FISCAL IMPACT			
		<u>State</u>	<u>Local</u>
NET CHANGE IN COSTS		\$4,773,800	\$
NET CHANGE IN REVENUE		\$	\$
Agency/Prepared By		Authorized Signature	Date
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