

### Fiscal Estimate - 2015 Session

Original     
  Updated     
  Corrected     
  Supplemental

LRB Number <b>15-1327/2</b>	Introduction Number <b>SB-323</b>
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**Description**  
 Granting victims of certain crimes the right to be accompanied by a victim advocate

**Fiscal Effect**

**State:**

No State Fiscal Effect  
 Indeterminate

<input 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 type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input 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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<b>Fund Sources Affected</b>	<b>Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations</b>
<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	

<b>Agency/Prepared By</b> SPD/ Anna Oehler (608) 267-0311	<b>Authorized Signature</b> Adam Plotkin (608) 264-8572	<b>Date</b> 10/29/2015
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## Fiscal Estimate Narratives

SPD 10/29/2015

LRB Number	15-1327/2	Introduction Number	SB-323	Estimate Type	Original
<b>Description</b> Granting victims of certain crimes the right to be accompanied by a victim advocate					

### 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 major 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.

This bill gives a victim of sexual assault, human trafficking, or child abuse (victim) the right to request accompaniment by a victim advocate to an examination or consultation. The bill also gives a victim of certain crimes the right to be accompanied by an advocate to certain interviews or proceedings relating to the crime.

It is possible that the bill could increase the complexity of cases in which the SPD provides representation. We are unable, however, to quantify the fiscal impact that might occur due to the provisions in the bill.

This bill could also have a fiscal impact on counties. There are some defendants who, despite exceeding the SPD's statutory financial guidelines, are constitutionally eligible for appointment of counsel because it would be a substantial hardship for them to retain an attorney. The court is required to appoint counsel at county expense for these defendants. The counties could also incur additional costs associated with incarceration of defendants, both pending trial and after sentencing.

### Long-Range Fiscal Implications