

Fiscal Estimate - 2019 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 19-5601/1	Introduction Number SB-809	
Description creating a sexual assault victim bill of rights; collection and reporting of data regarding sexual assault kits; storage and processing of sexual assault kits; tracking of sexual assault kits in sexual assault cases; and requiring the exercise of rule-making authority.		
Fiscal Effect State: <input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs		
Local: <input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Cities <input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts		
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations <input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS		
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DPI 2/17/2020

LRB Number	19-5601/1	Introduction Number	SB-809	Estimate Type	Original
Description creating a sexual assault victim bill of rights; collection and reporting of data regarding sexual assault kits; storage and processing of sexual assault kits; tracking of sexual assault kits in sexual assault cases; and requiring the exercise of rule-making authority.					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill creates a sexual assault victim bill of rights and several provision in law pertaining to the collection and reporting of data regarding sexual assault kits, the storage and processing of sexual assault kits, and the tracking of sexual assault kits in sexual assault cases.

The bill also modifies eligibility criteria under the state's private school parental choice ("school voucher") programs, to permit a student who is a victim of sexual assault (as defined in the bill) to attend a private school participating in the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP), the Racine Parental Choice Program (RPCP), or the Wisconsin (statewide) parental choice program (WPCP), regardless of whether the student meets the standard eligibility requirements to participate in the parental choice program. Additionally, the bill provides an alternative application procedure that allows a student who is victim of sexual assault to begin attending a private school under a parental choice program at any time during the school year. For purposes of these provisions, a student is a victim of sexual assault if charges are filed for the sexual assault and the person against whom the charges were filed is a student or a school district employee.

This fiscal estimate will focus on the bill's impact on the private school parental choice programs and public schools.

Under current law, when a student attends a private school as a participant in a parental choice program, DPI is required to make payment to that private school on behalf of the student. For the 2019-20 school year, the payment amount per full time equivalent (FTE) student is \$8,046 for those in kindergarten through grade eight, and \$8,692 for those in grades nine through twelve. For the 2020-21 school year, the payment amounts is estimated to be \$8,300 and \$8,946, respectively, per FTE student.

While the state incurs expenses for the payments to the private schools for eligible students, the costs to the state are offset in part via reductions to the state general aid payments to school districts. For students beginning in the Racine or the statewide parental choice program beginning in the 2015-16 school year or later, the aid reduction is applied to the general aid payment of the school district where the student resides. The aid reduction is equal to 100 percent of the payments made to private parental choice schools on behalf of students who reside in a school district (regardless of where the private school is located). This aid reduction is not reflected in a school district's October 15 certified aid payment; rather, the deductions are applied to a subsequent general aid payment. School districts that incur this aid reduction are eligible for an exemption to their revenue limit in an amount equal to the aid reduction, which allows the school board to raise its revenues from property taxes higher than it otherwise would be permitted under state-imposed revenue limits (i.e., offsetting the impact of the aid reduction to the school district, via local property tax collections).

For students participating in the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP), the cost of the payments to private schools is shared by the state and the Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) district: in the 2019-20 school year, the state's share was equal to 84 percent of the total payments to private schools, and the aid reduction applied to the MPS general aid payment was 16 percent. Under current law, the state's share grows by 3.2 percentage points (while the MPS share decreases by a like amount) each year, until the costs of the MPCP are fully borne by the state, in 2024-25. The aid reduction applied to MPS is figured into its October 15 certified general aid amount. Because all school boards have the authority to levy property taxes for general school operations in an amount equal to the district's total revenue limit less its certified general aid amount, MPS is able to make up for the MPCP aid reduction as part of its allowable levy under revenue limits (as opposed to making

use of a revenue limit exemption, as is done for other school districts).

The primary impact of the bill is that students who otherwise might not be eligible to pursue enrollment at a private school under a parental choice program would choose to do so. The impact to the local school district and to the state would depend on which program the student is participating.

To the extent that more students participate in the MPCP, the fiscal impact would be an increase in the aid reduction amount applied to MPS' general aid, though, in diminishing amounts over the years, as the state will soon be responsible for 100 percent of those cost (by 2024-25). But to the extent that more students participate in the RPCP/WPCP, 100 percent the cost of aid reductions would be applied as an aid reduction to the school districts where these students reside, thereby reducing state revenues. To the extent that these districts would utilize the allowable revenue limit exemption associated with the RPCP/WPCP, the local impact would be felt by property tax payers as an increase to the school property tax levy.

DPI cannot reasonably project how many students, which school districts they reside, or the specific parental choice program they would participate in; or, whether all school districts would fully utilize the revenue limit exemption associated with additional students participating in the RPCP/WPCP.

Local Fiscal Impact: varied, indeterminate

State Fiscal Impact: indeterminate.

In addition to the impact the bill would have on participation in a parent choice program (and the associated aid reductions and potential for levy increases), DPI would incur costs to make necessary programming changes to allow for an alternate application for the parental choice programs. The amount required to accomplish the required changes is unknown, but would have to be absorbed by the department's existing staff and resources.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications