

**FISCAL ESTIMATE FORM****1999 Session**

- ORIGINAL                       UPDATED  
 CORRECTED                        
 SUPPLEMENTAL

LRB # - 2398/1

Introduction # AB 232

Admin. Rule #

**Subject**

Achievement Guarantee Contracts (SAGE) -- Change in Class Size Definition

**Fiscal Effect**State:  No State Fiscal Effect

Check columns below only if bill makes a direct appropriation or affects a sum sufficient appropriation.

X Increase Costs - May be possible to Absorb Within Agency's Budget X Yes  No

- Increase Existing Appropriation                       Increase Existing Revenues  
 Decrease Existing Appropriation                       Decrease Existing Revenues  
 Create New Appropriation

 Decrease Costs

Local: X No local government costs

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs<br><input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory<br>2. X Decrease Costs<br>X Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory | 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenues<br><input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory<br>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenues<br><input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory | 5. Types of Local Governmental Units Affected:<br><input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Villages <input type="checkbox"/> Cities<br><input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others _____<br>X School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts |
|--|--|---|

**Fund Sources Affected**X GPR  FED  PRO  PRS  SEG  SEG-S**Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations**

s. 20.255 (2) (cu) and (cv)

**Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate:**

This bill changes the definition of "class size" in s. 118.43 (1) (a), Wis. stats. Currently the definition means "the number of pupils assigned to a regular classroom teacher on the 3rd Friday of September." The change would add "or teacher aide, as defined by department rule."

The change would enable a district to count teacher aides in their class size reduction efforts. A district could hire one teacher and one teacher aide for 30 students instead of hiring two teachers and still meet the SAGE class size reduction requirements.

**State Fiscal Effects**

The department will incur costs associated with rule development. The costs are not determinable. The size of the SAGE appropriations will not change.

**Local Fiscal Effects**

The bill may reduce local costs. At present, if a district does not have quite enough SAGE aid to pay for all the new teachers it needs to hire, it may have to make up the difference with local revenues. Allowing a school to use teacher aides instead of certified teachers to obtain the 15:1 class size could reduce or eliminate the need for any local match.

In 1997-98, six of the 30 SAGE schools reported local match totaling almost \$589,000. Of that amount, almost \$520,000 was spent on salaries and benefits for instructional staff. Amending the law to allow districts to use teacher aides instead of certified teachers might allow these schools and districts to reduce or eliminate the need for this local cost.

**Long-Range Fiscal Implications:****Prepared By: (Name & Phone # / Agency Name)**

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**Date**

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