Wisconsin Department of Administration Division of Executive Budget and Finance DOA-2048 (R07/2000)

Fiscal Estimate - 2001 Session

Original Update	d Corrected	Supplemental		
LRB Number 01-2981/3	Introduction Numb	oer AB-502		
Subject Youth options program; limit school board p	ayment to 6 credits			
Fiscal Effect				
Appropriations Decrease Existing	Decrease Existing absorb	e Costs - May be possible to within agency's budget Yes No se Costs		
1. Increase Costs 3. Increase Costs 3. Increase Costs 3. Increase Costs Increase Costs 4. Increase Costs 4. Increase Costs Inc	Permissive Mandatory Decrease Revenue Units Aff	ected ns Village Cities ntles Others ool WTCS		
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations PRO PRS SEG SEGS 20.235(1)(b), 20.235(1)(fe), 20.235(1)(ff), 20.235(1)(km), 20.235(2)				
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date		
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives HEAB 10/1/01

LRB Number 01-2981/3	Introduction Number AB-502	Estimate Type	Original	
Subject		-		
Youth options program; limit school board payment to 6 credits				

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, a pupil enrolled in a public school in the 11th or 12th grade may attend a Wisconsin college or university for one or more courses under the youth options program. The school board of the district in which the pupil is enrolled is responsible for paying the cost of tuition, fees, and books for the pupil under certain circumstances.

This bill provides that the school board is not responsible for payment for more than six credits in any semester. This bill also provides that, if a pupil fails to complete a course, the pupil must reimburse the school board the amount paid on the pupil's behalf.

Under current law, the Wisconsin Higher Education Grant (WHEG) or the Wisconsin Tuition Grant (WTG) programs provides need-based grant assistance to Wisconsin undergraduates enrolled in two year or four year Wisconsin public colleges and universities, Wisconsin tribal colleges, or non-profit Wisconsin independent colleges and universities.

This bill provides that the youth options program participant shall be considered for eligibility under the Wisconsin Higher Education Grant (WHEG) or the Wisconsin Tuition Grant (WTG) programs to assist with payment for tuition or education related expenses.

Program Costs:

It is unknown as to how many youth options program participants will take more than six credits and therefore be considered for eligibility under the WHEG or WTG programs. It is also unknown as to how many of the participants taking more than six credits would also meet all of the eligibility criteria attached to the WHEG or WTG programs. Both grant programs require that the student show financial need, based on information the student (and in some cases family) provides on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), as well as meet various other eligibility criteria. In 2000-01 the average Tribal College WHEG awarded per student was \$1,305, the average UW-WHEG awarded per student was \$1,151, the average WTC-WHEG awarded per student was \$739, and the average WTG awarded per student was \$1,883. Both the WHEG and WTG have a maximum amount that cannot be exceeded. The WTG can only be applied to tuition. So the youth options participant may or may not have all of their tuition, fees, and books paid for under these programs. Since the WHEG and WTG programs have a "ten semester limit" on eligibility, the youth options program participants would be using one of these semesters worth of eligibility. Therefore, there may not be a program fiscal effect over time if the youth options participant ultimately attends a Wisconsin college or university for their degree program. However, if the student attends an out-of-state college or university upon high school graduation, there would be a fiscal effect on both the WHEG and WTG programs (on the average in the amounts indicated above per student). Therefore, by expanding these programs to include youth options participants, current WHEG and WTG recipients would experience a decrease in grant assistance and/or some current recipients would become ineligible for assistance.

Administrative Costs:

Since it is unknown as to how many youth options program participants would be able to participate in the WHEG or WTG programs, the true fiscal impact cannot be predicted. However, by expanding the WHEG and WTG programs to include youth options program participants, additional Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB) staff time will be required to coordinate this component of the programs; to reprogram computer systems; and to work with the students and college or university administrators. Therefore, there would be an administrative fiscal effect for HEAB if this bill were to be enacted. There would also be a fiscal impact within the colleges and universities to administer this component.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Unknown