



## Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DPI 1/16/2004

LRB Number 03-3779/2	Introduction Number SB-363	Estimate Type Original
<b>Subject</b> Milwaukee Parental Choice Program; fiscal info, background checks, etc.		

### Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

2003 SB 363 requires a private school participating in the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP) to conduct a criminal background check on all persons employed as instructional staff. With certain exceptions, the bill prohibits a private school participating in the MPCP from employing a person who has been convicted of any of the felonies specified in the bill for six years following the conviction. The bill requires a private school to submit to the Department of Public Instruction (DPI), before the school begins participating in the MPCP, a copy of the school's certificate of occupancy issued by the city of Milwaukee, evidence of financial viability, and proof that the administrator of the school participated in a fiscal management training program approved by DPI. Annually, a private school participating in the MPCP must submit to DPI evidence of sound fiscal practices. SB 363 authorizes DPI to issue an order banning a private school from participating in the MPCP in the succeeding school year if DPI determines that the private school misrepresented information provided to DPI, failed to provide certain information to DPI by the date or within the period required, failed to refund overpayments to the state by the date required, or failed to meet at least one of the currently required academic or other standards by the required date. The bill authorizes DPI to issue an order immediately terminating a private school's participating in the MPCP if DPI determines that conditions at the private school present an imminent danger to the health or safety of pupils or that the private school failed to provide certain information to DPI by the date or within the period required. SB 363 authorizes DPI to withhold payment from a private school participating in the MPCP if the private school violates any law or administrative rule governing the MPCP.

In order to fully review MPCP school compliance and to implement the functions assigned to the department by the bill, one additional full time equivalent school finance auditor would need to be authorized and hired. The cost of doing so would be \$100,900 GPR annually (\$71,800 annual salary plus fringe and supplies and services).

The local-related requirements imposed by the bill are placed on private schools. There is no additional cost for local governments.

### Long-Range Fiscal Implications