

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DOC 3/31/2006

LRB Number	05-0035/4	Introduction Number	AB-1146	Estimate Type	Original
Description Authorizing access by the long-term care ombudsman or his or her representative to a client or resident in a residential care apartment complex, imposing an annual assessment on occupied apartments of residential care apartment complexes, expanding rights of residents of facilities; minimum staffing requirements for certain nursing homes; requiring audits by the Legislative Audit Bureau; requiring reports; caregiver background checks; quality of nursing home care; requiring the exercise of rule-making authority; and making an appropriation					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law DHFS, a county department, a child welfare agency, or a school board must conduct background checks by obtaining certain information with respect to persons who have or are seeking licenses, certifications, or contracts to operate certain entities (welfare agencies, licensed foster homes, treatment foster homes, group homes, shelter care facilities, and day care centers), as well as day care providers or temporary employment agencies that provide caregivers to one of these entities. An entity must also obtain the same information with respect to a caregiver they employ. Current law outlines what type of information must be obtained.

This new legislation creates two additional sources of information that must be checked with respect to persons who have or are seeking licenses, certifications, or contracts to operate entities, facilities, organizations or services. The new additional sources of information are: (1) information maintained by the Department of Corrections (DOC) in the registry of sex offenders; and (2) information on persons convicted of crimes as specified under the circuit court automation information system maintained by the Wisconsin court system on its Internet site.

The DOC already maintains a Sex Offender Registry, with information that is available to the general public that could be accessed by these entities. The department does not anticipate any fiscal impact as the result of this legislation.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications