Fiscal Estimate - 2007 Session

Original Updated	Corrected Su	pplemental	
LRB Number 07-1074/2	Introduction Number SB-0)88	
Description Requiring health insurance coverage of hearing	g aids and cochlear implants for infants and ye	oung children	
Fiscal Effect			
Appropriations Rev	ease Existing enues rease Existing enues The properties of the pr		
Local: ☐ No Local Government Costs ☐ Indeterminate ☐ 1.☐ Increase Costs ☐ Permissive ☐ Mandatory ☐ Decrease Revenue ☐ Counties ☐ Others ☐ School ☐ WTCS ☐ Districts ☐ Districts			
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEGS			
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date	
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives DHFS 4/3/2007

LRB Number 07-1074/2	Introduction Number SB-088	Estimate Type Original	
Description			
Requiring health insurance coverage of hearing aids and cochlear implants for infants and young children			

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

SB 88 requires health insurance policies to cover the cost of hearing aids and cochlear implants in children aged under five years of age. Currently the Medical Assistance (MA) and BadgerCare programs pay for these costs for Medicaid and BadgerCare recipients; therefore, the bill will not increase costs to these programs. MA is the payer of last resort for recipients' medical costs. The bill could reduce costs to MA and BadgerCare to the extent recipients have private insurance that will now be required to cover hearing aids and cochlear implants. It is not possible to quantify such savings, which are expected to be modest.

The bill requires self-insured plans of counties, cities, towns, villages, and school districts to offer these benefits as well. To the extent that these governing agencies have self-insurance plans which do not include these benefits, there may be an additional cost to local government, which is not possible to estimate.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications