

Fiscal Estimate Narratives
ETF 1/31/2008

LRB Number 07s0205/2	Introduction Number SSA1-SB337	Estimate Type Supplemental
Description Relating to: disclosure of information by health care providers and insurers and providing a penalty.		

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This substitute amendment places certain requirements on health care providers to provide charge information to patients for medical procedures. This will have no direct fiscal impact on the Department of Employee Trust Funds, though indirectly it would to the extent that providers pass any cost of administration through to participating health plans.

The substitute amendment also places certain requirements on health plans, including insurers and self-insured plans offered under chapter 40 of the Wisconsin State Statutes, to provide good-faith estimates of the median reimbursement a health plan would expect to pay, as well as the out-of-pocket costs a member would incur, for a specified health care service in a geographic region. The amendment specifies that such estimates need be provided only upon request of the member. The member must provide to the health plan the name of the provider, facility, date of service, and providers estimate of the charge. The insurer may not require that the member provide a current procedure terminology (CPT) code.

We do not have sufficient information to estimate the fiscal impact of this proposed legislation. Costs will be determined by the extent to which insurers will need to construct and administer the systems necessary to provide the information along with the marginal cost of providing this information on a per request basis.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications