



**Fiscal Estimate Narratives**  
**DCF 8/18/2009**

LRB Number <b>09-3207/1</b>	Introduction Number <b>SB-257</b>	Estimate Type <b>Original</b>
<b>Description</b> Emergency assistance grants		

**Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate**

Under current law, the Department administers the emergency assistance program that provides payments to needy persons for fire, flood, natural disaster, homelessness or impending homelessness, or energy crisis. Except in cases of energy crisis, the Department is required to make payments to families based on a per person amount that is published in the Wisconsin Administrative Register. Funding in the current fiscal year (FY10) for emergency assistance payments is \$6.5 million.

This bill requires the Department to establish maximum amounts of aid to be granted to a family for all types of emergency assistance, rather than the maximum amount to be granted per family member, and to publish these maximum amounts in the Wisconsin Administrative register if these amounts are not established by rule.

The bill changes the way the Department is to calculate emergency assistance grant amounts, but does not provide any additional funding. A fiscal impact may occur depending on the maximum payment levels established by the Department for emergency assistance payments. However, it is anticipated that the payment levels established will be consistent with the budgeted amounts for the program.

**Long-Range Fiscal Implications**

None