

### Fiscal Estimate - 2011 Session

Original       Updated       Corrected       Supplemental

**LRB Number 11-2907/1**      **Introduction Number SB-372**

**Description**  
Inspections of unlicensed child care centers, a hotline to receive reports of alleged unlicensed child care centers, and an unlicensed child care center public information and education campaign

**Fiscal Effect**

**State:**

No State Fiscal Effect

Indeterminate

Increase Existing Appropriations       Increase Existing Revenues       Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget  
 Decrease Existing Appropriations       Decrease Existing Revenues       Yes       No

Create New Appropriations       Decrease Costs

**Local:**

No Local Government Costs

Indeterminate

1.  Increase Costs      3.  Increase Revenue      5. Types of Local Government Units Affected

Permissive  Mandatory       Permissive  Mandatory       Towns       Village       Cities

2.  Decrease Costs      4.  Decrease Revenue       Counties       Others

Permissive  Mandatory       Permissive  Mandatory       School Districts       WTCS Districts

**Fund Sources Affected**      **Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations**

GPR    FED    PRO    PRS    SEG    SEGS

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## Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DCF 2/14/2012

LRB Number 11-2907/1	Introduction Number SB-372	Estimate Type Original
<b>Description</b> Inspections of unlicensed child care centers, a hotline to receive reports of alleged unlicensed child care centers, and an unlicensed child care center public information and education campaign		

### Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill would make the Department of Children and Families (DCF) responsible for creating and maintaining a toll free hotline for the purpose of receiving reports of suspected unlicensed child care providers. Additionally the bill directs DCF to conduct a public information and education campaign relating to the benefits associated with licensed child care and the possible dangers of child care provided by an unlicensed provider. This bill also provides 2.0 PR positions for the purpose of investigating alleged unlicensed providers.

Currently, DCF maintains a hotline for the purpose of receiving calls related to fraud in the Wisconsin Shares Child Care program. If the same toll free number were used to also receive reports of suspected unlicensed child care providers, DCF would be able to take advantage of the current technical infrastructure and would not need to purchase a separate line. DCF would be able to monitor the calls with existing staff. The cost for toll free lines is dependent on the volume of calls received. It is unknown how many calls related to unlicensed child care providers would be received on the hotline.

This bill does not specify the magnitude of the public information and education campaign. In the 2009-11 biennium, the Department conducted a foster care public information campaign to raise awareness of the need for foster parents funded at \$77,800 per year. A similar public information campaign regarding child care modeled after this project would likely cost about \$80,000 annually.

This bill provides DCF 2.0 FTE positions in order to investigate alleged unlicensed childcare providers. The Department estimates the cost of these two positions at \$84,500 per FTE, or \$169,000 annually. Under the bill, the positions would be funded from child care licensing fees, 20.437 (2)(jn).

Since no additional child care licensing fees would be generated by this bill and all the current fees collected are budgeted for other licensing activities, the Department would incur additional costs from this bill without an associated increase in revenue.

### Long-Range Fiscal Implications