## Fiscal Estimate - 2011 Session

$\boxtimes$	Original		Updated		Corrected		Supplemental					
LRB	Number	11-3165/		Introd	uction Numbe	er SB	-414					
Description The typeface used, and rates charged, for publication of legal notices												
Fiscal	Effect											
	No State Fisc Indeterminate Increase I Appropria Decrease Appropria Create Ne	e Existing tions Existing	Reven Decrea Reven	ase Existing	to absor	rb within a Yes	May be possible agency's budget \textsq\No					
Local:  No Local Government Costs  Indeterminate  1. Increase Costs Permissive Mandatory  2. Decrease Costs Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Districts  5. Types of Local Government Units Affected Towns Village Cities Counties Others School Districts												
	Sources Aff		☑ PRS 🔲 S	SEG 🔲 SE	Affected Ch.	20 Appro	priations					
Agen	cy/Prepared	Ву	[A	Authorized S	Signature		Date					
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# Fiscal Estimate Narratives DOA 2/15/2012

LRB Number 1	1-3165/1	Introduction Number	SB-414	Estimate Type	Original				
Description									
The typeface used, and rates charged, for publication of legal notices									

### **Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate**

#### STATE FISCAL EFFECT

Senate Bill (SB) 414 makes changes to the statutory provisions on publication of legal notices. The bill standardizes the type and size of font that can be used in legal notices and eliminates the current minimum rate per line and requires the standard line rate to be reviewed annually. The bill also requires that any newspaper that publishes a legal notice must also place an electronic copy of the notice on a web site that is maintained by Wisconsin newspapers for this purpose. The newspapers cannot charge customers for placement of the electronic copy on the web site.

Under current law the Department of Administration (DOA) sets the rates that newspapers may charge state, county and local governments when the entity is required to publish legal notice of an action. Currently, DOA procurement staff has developed rates for 551 fonts and font sizes. Changes to those rates are made periodically upon request from the publisher. DOA also reviews and adjusts the minimum and maximum rates every two years, by gathering and analyzing the required data and consulting with representatives of the newspaper industry.

The bill's impact on DOA will decrease the workload insofar as developing or adjusting the rate for a specific non-standard font. There will only be one font, Arial and 7 font sizes. The bill also eliminates a minimum rate. Workload for adjusting the standard rate will increase since it will be done annually. The Department believes there will be increased costs arising from having to do the standard rate setting every year, but those costs will be offset in part by a reduction in the workload associated with maintaining rates for a large number of fonts and font sizes. Any increase can be absorbed by the Department.

The impact on DOA costs arising from the publication of legal notices is indeterminate.

#### LOCAL Estimate

The impact on costs arising from the publication of legal notices by counties and municipalities and other government entities is indeterminate.

#### Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Indeterminate.