Fiscal Estimate - 2011 Session						
🛛 Original 🔲 Updated	Corrected Su	pplemental				
LRB Number 11-1616/1	Introduction Number AB-0	079				
Description Limiting the number of days on which legislators may claim allowances and expenses						
Fiscal Effect						
Appropriations Reve Decrease Existing Decr	ease Existing enues Increase Costs - Ma to absorb within age enues IVes MDecrease Costs					
Local: No Local Government Costs Indeterminate 1. Increase Costs 3. Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory						
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations						
GPR _ FED _ PRO _ PRS _ SEG _ SEGS s. 20.765(1)(a) and (1)((b)						
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date				
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives LFB 4/14/2011

LRB Number	11-1616/1	Introduction Number	AB-0079	Estimate Type	Original	
Description						
Limiting the number of days on which legislators may claim allowances and expenses						

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, a legislator may claim a per diem allowance for food and lodging for each day in Madison on legislative business. Days of business do not include any Saturday or Sunday unless the legislator is in actual attendance on that day at a session of the Legislature or a meeting of a standing committee of which the legislator is a member. Further, each legislator is required to file a request with the Chief Clerk of his or her house certifying the specific dollar amount the member wishes to receive. Currently, legislators may request up to \$88 per day, except legislators from Dane County who may request up to \$44 per day. In addition, current Assembly policy limits per diem claims to 153 days per year.

Assembly Bill 79 (AB 79) would specify that a legislator may not claim a per diem allowance for more than 50 days per year.

Biennial sessions of the Wisconsin Legislature begin with the inauguration of a new Legislature in January of each odd-numbered year. The Legislature meets throughout the odd-numbered year. In the evennumbered year, the Legislature generally recesses by May prior to primary and general elections. As a result, more legislative session days occur in odd-numbered years than in even-numbered years.

For the last two legislative sessions, total legislative per diem expenditures have averaged \$1,180,000 in the odd-numbered year and \$872,000 in the even-numbered year. During this same period, legislators, on average, made per diem claims for 109 days in the odd-numbered year and 81 days in the even-numbered year.

Under AB 79, limiting the maximum number of days an allowance may be claimed to 50 days is estimated, based on the averages of the last two sessions, to reduce costs by \$630,000 in the odd-numbered year and \$350,000 in the even-numbered year (a total of \$980,000 over the biennium).

Long-Range Fiscal Implications