Fiscal Estimate - 2015 Session

☑ Original ☐ Updated	Corrected	Suppleme	ental			
LRB Number 15-0922/1	Introduction Number	er AB-005	1			
Description Creating family treatment court and juvenile treatment court grant programs in the department of children and families and making an appropriation						
Fiscal Effect	Я					
Appropriations Reve	rease Existing to abso	e Costs - May b orb within agency Yes se Costs				
Permissive Mandatory Perm 2. Decrease Costs 4. Decr	Affected nissive Mandatory rease Revenue Counissive Mandatory	ment Units I /ns	outside.			
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations						
GPR 🖾 FED 🔲 PRO 🗍 PRS 🗍 SEG 🗍 SEGS 20.437(1)(mb)						
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature		Date			
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives DCF 3/9/2015

LRB Number	15-0922/1	Introduction Number	AB-0051	Estimate Type	Original		
Description Creating family treatment court and juvenile treatment court grant programs in the department of children							
and families and making an appropriation							

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill creates family treatment court and juvenile treatment court programs in the Department of Children and Families (DCF).

The bill creates a family treatment court grant program under the Children's Code, to be administered by DCF and operating within the court assigned to exercise jurisdiction under the Children's Code. The bill also creates a similar program under the Juvenile Justice Code, to be administered by DCF and operating within the court assigned to exercise jurisdiction under the Juvenile Justice Code.

Under the family treatment court grant program, DCF would make grants available to counties to enable them to establish and operate programs to develop procedures that screen, assess, and provide new dispositional alternatives for parents whose children have come under the jurisdiction of the children's court due to parental problems related to mental illness or substance abuse. A county that receives a grant must establish eligibility criteria for participation in the county's program, provide evidence—based treatment services to program participants, and integrate all services provided to program participants by various governmental and non—governmental entities. The bill also requires counties that receive those grants to submit data to DCF that must be analyzed annually by DCF. DCF must also, every five years, prepare a comprehensive report of the program.

Under the juvenile treatment court grant program, DCF similarly would make grants available to counties to enable them to establish and operate programs to develop procedures that screen, assess, and provide new dispositional alternatives for juveniles who have problems related to mental illness or substance abuse. In all other respects the juvenile treatment court grant program is very similar to the family treatment court grant program.

Funding for the family treatment court and juvenile treatment court grant programs is within the limits of available funding from the appropriation that is used to fund both the family alcohol and other drug abuse pilot program under s. 48.547, stats., and the juvenile alcohol and other drug abuse pilot program under s. 938.547, stats. The appropriation is federally funded for specific, limited—term projects, to be expended as local assistance for the purposes specified.

The appropriation designated to fund the programs under the bill currently has no funding. This bill would provide no additional funding for these programs.

Milwaukee County currently has a pilot family treatment court program. The program serves an estimated 67 clients per year at an estimated annual cost of \$237,500. This results in an estimated annual cost per client of \$3,555. The cost of these programs would depend on its size—the number of clients expected to be served. For example, every 10 clients would cost \$35,600.

Under the bill, DCF must also prepare annual and other reports evaluating the effectiveness of the grant programs. Costs to prepare these reports could be absorbed by existing staff resources.