

Fiscal Estimate - 2017 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 17-2248/1	Introduction Number AB-0216
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Description
 permitting certain individuals to make requests for medication for the purpose of ending their lives and providing a criminal penalty

Fiscal Effect

State:

<input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate	<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues	
<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations		<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs
<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations		
<input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations		

Local:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs		5. Types of Local Government Units Affected <input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities <input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts
<input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate		
1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs	3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs	4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	

Fund Sources Affected	Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations
<input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS 20.435 (1) (gm)	

Agency/Prepared By DHS/ Sara Koliner (608) 267-5147	Authorized Signature Andy Forsaith (608) 266-7684	Date 5/10/2017
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DHS 5/10/2017

LRB Number	17-2248/1	Introduction Number	AB-0216	Estimate Type	Original
Description permitting certain individuals to make requests for medication for the purpose of ending their lives and providing a criminal penalty					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, all suicides in Wisconsin must be reported to the sheriff, police chief, or medical examiner of the county where the death took place. This includes physician-assisted suicides in the case of terminal illness. In the event that a health care provider assists an individual in taking his or her own life, the health care provider or facility could be charged with a crime, held civilly liable, or charged with unprofessional conduct, no matter the circumstance.

Under this bill, an individual may request medication for the purpose of ending his or her life from his or her attending physician, provided the individual meets stated preconditions (including diagnosis with a terminal illness). After the initial oral request, the requester must submit a medical request form that is supplied by the Department and stored in the requester's health care record. Once this and all other requirements have been met by the requester and his or her attending physician, the physician will report information about the request to the Department on a Department-prescribed form. The physician will then be free to prescribe medication that will end the individual's life without being charged with a crime, being held civilly liable, or being charged with unprofessional conduct (provided that directives of the statute have been satisfied).

If enacted, the responsibilities of the Department would include creating and distributing medical request forms and accompanying statute information, creating, providing, and storing physician compliance forms, annually examining a sample of the received compliance forms, and providing copies of forms during investigations of alleged violations of the statute. The Department estimates that it will require 100 hours of a Record/Forms Management Specialist - Advanced to create the specified forms, at a cost of \$3,200, which can be absorbed within the agency's budget. The Department expects a low volume of records, and so would keep the records as paper or scanned documents. Assuming low volume, the Department anticipates that it can accomplish the additional workload with existing resources.

The Office of Health Informatics provides the majority of its forms electronically with near-zero additional cost. In order to provide hard copies to the locations specified in s. 156.15, the Department expects an initial cost of \$0.05 per copy, with five copies to 1000 locations, or \$250. The Department anticipates that the cost to provide subsequent forms to these locations or private persons would be minimal, and absorbed within the agency's budget.

The Department does not anticipate a fiscal impact on local health departments.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications