

Fiscal Estimate - 2019 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 19-2019/1	Introduction Number SB-112
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Description
 an emergency exception for high performing school districts to the number of hours of direct pupil instruction requirement

Fiscal Effect

State:

No State Fiscal Effect
 Indeterminate
 Increase Existing Appropriations
 Decrease Existing Appropriations
 Create New Appropriations
 Increase Existing Revenues
 Decrease Existing Revenues
 Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget
 Yes No
 Decrease Costs

Local:

No Local Government Costs
 Indeterminate

1. Increase Costs
 Permissive Mandatory
 2. Decrease Costs
 Permissive Mandatory
 3. Increase Revenue
 Permissive Mandatory
 4. Decrease Revenue
 Permissive Mandatory

5. Types of Local Government Units Affected
 Towns Village Cities
 Counties Others
 School Districts WTCS Districts

Fund Sources Affected	Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations
<input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS	

Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DPI 3/21/2019

LRB Number	19-2019/1	Introduction Number	SB-112	Estimate Type	Original
Description an emergency exception for high performing school districts to the number of hours of direct pupil instruction requirement					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill requires the Department of Public Instruction to count hours of direct pupil instruction that are canceled because school is closed due to an emergency or inclement weather if the school district was in one of the top two performance categories on the most recent school and school district accountability report (commonly known as the state report card).

In other words, under the bill, a school district that was in one of the top two categories on the state report card is not required to make up hours of direct pupil instruction that were missed because schools were closed due to an emergency or inclement weather.

Under Wis. Stat 121.01 (1) (f) school districts are annually required to schedule at least 437 hours of direct pupil instruction in kindergarten, at least 1,050 hours of direct pupil instruction in grades 1 to 6 and at least 1,137 hours of direct pupil instruction in grades 7 to 12. Scheduled hours under this paragraph include recess and time for pupils to transfer between classes but do not include the lunch period.

Private schools participating in Wisconsin Parental Choice programs are also subject under Wis. Stats. 118.60(2) (8) and 119.23(2)(8), to schedule at least at least 1,050 hours of direct pupil instruction in grades 1 to 6 and at least 1,137 hours of direct pupil instruction in grades 7 to 12.

There are five levels or categories of school and school district performance. The top performance categories are: Significantly Exceeds Expectations (5 stars) and Exceeds Expectations (4 stars).

According to the most recent accountability report of Wisconsin's 422 school districts from 2017-18, there were 49 districts that significantly exceeded expectations and 206 school districts that exceeded expectations. Thus, the number of public school districts in the top two performance categories totaled 255 districts that year.

At the school level, 327 public and private schools significantly exceeded expectations and 768 exceeded expectations in 2017-18.

It's unknown what the future number of school closings due to an emergency or inclement weather will be. The number of schools in the top performance categories may also fluctuate from year-to-year thereby impacting the number of eligible school district subject to this legislation.

Many school districts already include additional direct pupil instruction hours above the minimum to take into account potential school closings due to emergency and inclement weather. Since the number of additional hours built into a school calendar may vary among schools, the potential need to seek this emergency exemption will also likely vary among districts. There are other varying factors that could impact net savings/costs to a schools/districts such as bus service, the number of school staff paid on an hourly basis, utilities etc..

For the above reasons the local fiscal costs are indeterminate.

State: None

Local: Indeterminate

Long-Range Fiscal Implications