

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DCF 12/18/2019

LRB Number	19-4887/1	Introduction Number	SB-609	Estimate Type	Original
Description qualified residential treatment programs, providing an exemption from rule-making procedures, and granting rule-making authority					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill allows DCF to certify a residential care center, group home, or shelter care facility to operate a qualified residential treatment program for children and youth (QRTP) if it determines that the program meets federal QRTP requirements under the Family First Prevention Services Act. The bill requires DCF to promulgate rules for the establishment, certification and operation of a QRTP.

The development of emergency and permanent administrative rule provisions for QRTPs will require Department staff time. This workload will be absorbed by existing Department staff.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

The Department anticipates that to comply with federal Family First Prevention Services Act requirements, the administrative rule provisions for QRTPs will involve more intensive treatment and a higher operating cost for facilities, which could result in higher rates paid by counties, tribes, and DCF (including the Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services).

Additionally, there will be costs to the Department associated with establishing a new provider type, including updating eWiSACWIS (the statewide automated child welfare information system) and updating trainings and policies.

The additional QRTP-related costs are indeterminate and will be requested in future biennia if needed.