2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 629

November 21, 2019 - Introduced by Representatives ALLEN, STEFFEN, KULP, RAMTHUN, BROOKS, DITTRICH, WICHERGS, KNODL, TUSLER and GUNDERM, cosponsored by Senators BERNIER and STROEBEEL. Referred to Committee on Government Accountability and Oversight.

1 AN ACT to create 16.42 (5) of the statutes; relating to: biennial reports regarding fees charged by executive state agencies.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, no later than September 15 of each even-numbered year, each executive state agency must file with the Department of Administration the agency’s budget request for the succeeding biennium. This bill requires each agency to include with its biennial budget request, and to submit to the governor and the legislature, a report that lists each fee the agency is authorized to charge. The report must also include the following:

1. The amount of each fee or the method of calculating the fee if there is no fixed amount.
2. An identification of the agency’s statutory authority to charge each fee.
3. A statement whether or not the agency currently charges the fee.
4. A description of whether and how each fee has changed over time.
5. Any recommendation the agency has concerning each fee.

The bill defines “fee” as any amount of money other than a tax that an agency charges a person other than a governmental entity.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:
SECTION 1. 16.42 (5) of the statutes is created to read:

16.42 (5) (a) In this subsection, “fee” means any amount of money other than a tax that an agency charges a person other than a governmental entity.

(b) Each agency required to submit a budget request under sub. (1) shall include with its request, and shall submit to the governor and to the legislature under s. 13.172 (2), a report that lists each fee the agency is required or otherwise authorized to charge and that includes all of the following:

1. The amount of each fee, or, if a fee does not have a fixed amount, the method of calculating the fee.
2. An identification of the agency’s statutory authority to charge each fee.
3. A statement whether or not the agency currently charges the fee.
4. A description of whether and how each fee has increased or decreased since the agency was first authorized to charge the fee.
5. Any recommendation the agency has concerning each fee.

SECTION 2. Effective date.

(1) This act takes effect on January 1, 2021.