Fiscal Estimate - 2021 Session

☑ Original ☐ Updated	Corrected	Supplemental
LRB Number 21-6107/1	Introduction Num	ber SB-1029
Description Administration of Internet-based parental choice	program applications and enrol	llments
Fiscal Effect		
Appropriations Rever	ease Existing absorb	se Costs - May be possible to within agency's budget Yes See Costs
Permissive Mandatory Perm 2. Decrease Costs 4. Decre	use Revenue issive Mandatory ease Revenue issive Mandatory Cou	ns Village Cities Others
Fund Sources Affected GPR FED PRO PRS	Affected	Ch. 20 Appropriations
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date
DPI/ Erin Fath (608) 266-2804	Erin Fath (608) 266-2804 3/11/202	

Fiscal Estimate Narratives DPI 3/11/2022

LRB Number	21-6107/1	Introduction Number	SB-1029	Estimate Type	Original	
Description						
Administration of Internet-based parental choice program applications and enrollments						

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill would require DPI to contract with a service provider to administer an Internet-based pupil application and enrollment process for the parental choice programs under Wis. Stat. Secs. 118.60 and 119.23, including the design and maintenance of and technical support for the Internet site used in connection with that process. The bill does not provide additional resources to DPI to pay for the required contract, nor does it specify the appropriation under Wis. Stats. Chapter 20 from which the payments to the contractor would be made. This fiscal estimate assumes that the costs of the contract mandated by the bill would be paid from DPI's GPR appropriation for general program operations under Wis. Stat. Sec. 20.255(1)(a).

DPI has already built, and currently maintains, the existing Online Private School Choice Application System used for the Milwaukee, Racine, and Wisconsin (statewide) parental choice programs (collectively, choice programs). The online application system built by DPI is used by parents seeking to apply to a choice program, and by private schools seeking to participate in a choice program. This work is conducted by employees in permanent, civil service positions, who conduct IT programming work on the choice programs online application system, as well as other existing other IT systems for programs managed by DPI (e.g., the public school open enrollment application portal).

The requirement in the bill would force the state to expend monies (via a DPI appropriation) for an online application system that already exists. While the amount that DPI would have to expend for this purpose is, at this time, indeterminate, the expenditures would continue beyond the initial building of the online system, as the system would require ongoing maintenance. The additional expenditures would force reallocation of resources for DPI general program operations in order to support a contract to duplicate a product and attendant services to customers that already exists.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

The expenditures for a duplicative online application system for private school choice programs would continue beyond the initial building of the online system (into perpetuity), as the system would require ongoing maintenance under the contract.