

Fiscal Estimate - 2023 Session

Original Updated Corrected Supplemental

LRB Number **23-4469/1** Introduction Number **SB-0557**

Description
housing and homelessness; emergency rental assistance program; indigent civil legal services; workforce development; community action agencies; poverty reports; mental health; economic security; reimbursement for nonemergency medical transportation services; urban mass transit aid; lead exposure and abatement services; lead service line replacement; providing an exemption from emergency rule procedures; granting rule-making authority; and making an appropriation

Fiscal Effect

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

Local:
 No Local Government Costs
 Indeterminate
1. Increase Costs 3. Increase Revenue
 Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory
2. Decrease Costs 4. Decrease Revenue
 Permissive Mandatory 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

GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEGS

Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

WHEDA 10/31/2023

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Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

2023 Senate Bill 557 (SB557) creates new requirements for the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA). Under SB557, WHEDA would be required to annually issue a report to the legislature on the number of households with worst case housing needs in Wisconsin. The report must include data and demographic information on these households, analysis of the impediments to obtaining affordable housing, and recommendations on how to improve state and local programs to assist these households with their housing needs.

WHEDA does not currently have data related to renters with worst case housing needs and does not survey households. To acquire this information, WHEDA may be able to hire a consultant to obtain Wisconsin data from the US Census and additional data through surveys or other means. This would be a large and costly undertaking to complete annually.

SB557 also requires WHEDA to create a two-year pilot program and develop policies and procedures for this pilot program that gives priority to homeless children and their families under the federal Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program. WHEDA maintains a very small percentage of the state's federal HVC allocation, which is 100% prescribed at this time. WHEDA could establish a pilot prioritizing homeless children and families as allowed within existing HUD Federal regulations with existing internal staff.

Finally, SB557 expands the current responsibilities of the Interagency Council on Homelessness to include the identification of ways in which WHEDA can increase access to services for homeless individuals and families, including homeless children and youths as defined under federal law, and receive advice from the Interagency Council on homelessness on the revision of any policy or practice that the council determines impedes homeless individuals and families from obtaining services.

WHEDA participates on the Interagency Council on Homelessness. It is assumed that any WHEDA staff engaged with the Interagency Council on Homelessness will be tasked with making the identifications and providing advice on any revisions. This requirement will necessitate the engagement of more WHEDA staff time and resources for accuracy in reporting to the Interagency Council on Homelessness, the extent of which cannot be estimated at this time.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Reporting on "households with worst case housing needs in Wisconsin" annually into perpetuity might require a .5 FTE to accumulate the data, analyze it, and provide a report to the legislature as required by SB557.

The Interagency Council on Homelessness is tasked with creating a report to the legislature no later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year into perpetuity. The increased responsibility of WHEDA staff to the Interagency Council on Homelessness might require the creation of a dedicated .5 FTE position.