

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DMA 1/22/2024

LRB Number	23-5458/1	Introduction Number	SB-0909	Estimate Type	Original
Description grants for 911-caller-provided health, access, and functional needs information structures and making an appropriation					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, the Department of Military Affairs (DMA) must award grants to public safety answering points (PSAP), more commonly known as 911 call centers, for a variety of purposes related to advanced 911 operations. This bill creates an additional grant program under which DMA must award grants to public safety answering points and counties for the development and maintenance of, and technical assistance for implementing, the county's or public safety answering point's capabilities for storing and accessing 911-caller-provided health, access, and functional needs information. At least 50 percent of the grants made by DMA under the program must be made to rural counties or public safety answering points located in rural counties. A grant awarded under the program must be for 80 percent of the total anticipated 911-caller-provided health, access, and functional needs information project cost, and the grant recipient shall secure the remaining 20 percent of funding. Public safety answering points and counties that receive a grant under the program must make annual reports to DMA about their developed capabilities and must keep their capabilities secure and confidential. Under the bill, DMA must create educational materials for the general public regarding capabilities for storing and accessing 911-caller-provided health, access, and functional needs information.

It is undetermined how many counties would apply for grant funding for the purpose identified in this bill. According to the Office of Management and Budget definition, 32 counties in Wisconsin are considered rural. If 50% of the grants each year are to be awarded to rural counties, then each grant would be approximately $\$250,000/32 = \$7,812.50$ for the state share (80%) and an additional \$1,953.10 for local share (20%). The remaining 50% grant funding for each year for the 40 non-rural counties is estimated at $\$250,000/40 = \$6,250$ per grant for the state share (80%) and \$1,562.50 for local share (20%).

Per the bill, only the grants are funded by the created appropriation. There is no funding created for grant administration or for the development and dissemination of educational materials. The agency has limited staffing in this area within the Next Generation 911 program. We anticipate the need for 1.0 FTE to ensure the grant program is administered according to the bill requirements as well as to develop and disseminate educational materials. This position would be classified as a Grants Specialist – Advanced would increase costs to the department by an estimated \$83,197.04 per fiscal year.

Since emergency services is under Wis. Stats. Section 256.08, the Department of Health Services serves as the lead agency for emergency medical services. To reduce any duplication of effort, it may be more effective and efficient to have the educational materials developed and disseminated by the agency that already leads on training, certification, and administration of emergency services.

As required by the bill, county or public safety answering points shall provide annual reports to the Department of Military Affairs; however, it is unclear in the bill how residents opt to use the storing and accessibility of 911-caller-provided data and what the new capabilities are since these entities already collect and store data related to 911 calls.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications