

Fiscal Estimate - 2023 Session

Original
 Updated
 Corrected
 Supplemental

LRB Number 23-5713/1	Introduction Number SB-0973
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Description
 requiring the community approach to four-year-old kindergarten

Fiscal Effect

State:

<input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget
<input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate	<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations	<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations	<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs
<input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations		

Local:

<input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs	5. Types of Local Government Units Affected	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate	<input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities <input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts	
1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs	3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs	4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	

Fund Sources Affected	Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations
<input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS	

Agency/Prepared By DPI/ Erin Fath (608) 266-2804	Authorized Signature Erin Fath (608) 266-2804	Date 2/5/2024
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DPI 2/5/2024

LRB Number	23-5713/1	Introduction Number	SB-0973	Estimate Type	Original
Description requiring the community approach to four-year-old kindergarten					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, a school board may, but is not required to, provide four-year-old kindergarten (4k). Further, a school board may (but is not required to) offer the 4k program under a community approach.

Under this bill, if a school provides 4k, the school board would be required to offer 4k using a community approach to early education, as defined by DPI by rule. Further, under the bill, the school board would be required to contract with each family childcare center, group childcare center, and head start agency (community-based provider) located within the school district geographic boundaries, if they meet the following criteria: 1) holds a license issued by the Department of Children and Families (DCF); 2) is in good standing with DCF; and 3) notifies the school board of its intent to offer a four-year-old kindergarten program by no later than February 1 of the preceding school year.

The bill also requires that the contract between a school board and a community-based provider include a minimum net per pupil amount that is not less than 95 percent of the per pupil revenue limit that applies to four-year-old kindergarten pupils in the school district in which the community-based provider is located. Under the bill, the contract must also include a quarterly payment schedule, allocate the responsibility to provide transportation to the community-based provider, and allow the community-based provider to use any curriculum that meets the Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards.

The bill further specifies that the contract between a school board and a community-based provider may not require a staff-to-child ratio that is less than what is required by DCF under the community-based provider's DCF license and may not require the administration of assessments that are not required under state or federal law.

Finally, the bill exempts teachers who teach four-year-old kindergarten at a community-based provider from the requirement to hold a license issued by DPI; the bill replaces licensure requirements with specified educational attainment requirements.

Linking the net minimum per pupil payment under a 4k community approach contract with a school district's revenue limit authority per pupil will result in different payment amounts under those contracts by school district, because each district has its own revenue limit per pupil amount. Current state law does not specify how much a school district must pay to a childcare provider for 4k community approach contracts, and DPI does not collect that data from school districts. Therefore, the difference between what a local childcare provider may receive under a 4k community approach contract under this bill, compared to current law, is indeterminate. To the extent that the bill results in higher payment by a school district to the 4k community approach childcare provider, the school district would have a net increase in costs (and vice versa).

Long-Range Fiscal Implications