



## Legislative Fiscal Bureau

One East Main, Suite 301 • Madison, WI 53703 • (608) 266-3847 • Fax: (608) 267-6873

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Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #273

### **Minor Policy and Technical Changes -- Election Campaign Fund Reestimate (Elections Board and Miscellaneous Appropriations)**

#### *Base Agency*

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#### **CURRENT LAW**

The Wisconsin Election Campaign Fund (WECF) provides campaign finance grants to qualifying candidates for the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Treasurer, Secretary of State, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Justice of the Supreme Court, State Senator, and Member of the Assembly. A taxfiler may designate on his or her individual income tax return that \$1 be transferred from the general fund to the WECF. Annually on August 15, the Secretary of the Department of Revenue is required to certify to the Elections Board, the Department of Administration and the Office of the State Treasurer the number of designations made by taxpayers during the preceding fiscal year. Since the check-off does not affect taxpayer refunds or liabilities, an amount equivalent to the number of designations is transferred annually to the WECF from an election campaign payments GPR sum sufficient appropriation. In 2006-07, \$239,879 was transferred to the WECF. The base level expenditure estimate for the election campaign payments sum sufficient appropriation is \$250,000 GPR annually.

#### **GOVERNOR**

No provision.

#### **MODIFICATION**

Reduce estimated transfers from the election campaign payments sum sufficient appropriation by \$7,100 GPR annually to \$242,900 GPR, to reflect the reduced current level of \$1 individual income tax check-off designations to the WECF.

**Explanation:** During the last three state fiscal years (2004-05 through 2006-07), the average transfer from the election campaign payments sum sufficient appropriation to the WECF has equaled \$242,900 GPR.

	<b>Change to Bill</b> Funding	<b>Change to Base</b> Funding
GPR	- \$14,200	- \$14,200

Prepared by: Paul Onsager