



Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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

May 18, 2011

Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #195

Social Services Block Grant (DCF -- Departmentwide and Children and Families)

[LFB 2011-13 Budget Summary: Page 85, #2; Page 88, #9; and Page 96, #13]

CURRENT LAW

Children and family aids funding is distributed, by the Department of Children and Families (DCF), to eligible counties for services related to child abuse and neglect and to unborn child abuse, including prevention, investigation, and treatment. Children and family aids distributed to county departments of human/social services are supported with temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) block grant funds, social services block grant (SSBG) funds, Title IV-E of the federal Social Security Act, Title IV-B of the federal Social Security Act, federal targeted case management (TCM) funds, and GPR. TCM funds are federal medical assistance (MA) matching funds for case management services provided to children in out-of-home care who are not eligible for reimbursement under Title IV-E. Base funding for children and family aids is \$64,687,500 (\$30,403,900 GPR, \$26,278,400 FED, and \$8,005,200 PR).

States may use SSBG funds to provide services directed toward at least one of five goals: (a) to prevent, reduce, or eliminate economic dependency; (b) to achieve or maintain self-sufficiency; (c) to prevent neglect, abuse, or exploitation of children and adults; (d) to prevent or reduce inappropriate institutional care; and (e) to secure admission or referral for institutional care when other forms of care are not appropriate. The Department of Health Services (DHS) transfers SSBG funding to DCF for children and family aids. A portion of the SSBG funding DCF receives is used for state administration of child welfare programs.

GOVERNOR

Increase Employee Contributions for Pensions and Health Insurance. Delete funding to reflect fringe benefit cost reductions associated with increased state employee contributions for Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) benefits and health insurance coverage, including \$105,800 PR annually that is funded with SSBG funds transferred from DHS.

Reestimate of SSBG Funding and Position and Funding Realignment. Reestimate the amount of SSBG funding transferred from DHS, including an increase of \$96,100 PR annually for 2.0 FTE positions. In addition, to more accurately reflect the needs and organizational structure of DCF, convert 27.56 FED positions to 27.56 PR positions, including 2.0 FTE positions funded with SSBG.

MODIFICATION

Increase SSBG expenditure authority in DCF by \$9,700 PR annually.

Explanation: Although \$105,800 PR annually in SSBG funds would be reduced due to the fringe benefit reductions, these funds would still be transferred by DHS to DCF and would still be available for DCF's administration of SSBG. Therefore, the SSBG expenditure authority for DCF should be increased by \$105,800 PR annually to reflect that these funds are available to DCF for the administration of the SSBG funds and may be used for other administrative activities, such as supplies and services, rather than for fringe benefits.

In addition, reduce SSBG funding by \$96,100 PR annually to reflect that an increase in SSBG funds for 2.0 FTE positions was double-counted in child welfare revenue reestimates and in position and funding realignments. It should be noted that the actual positions were only counted once in the position and funding realignments.

Change to Bill Funding	
PR	\$19,400

Prepared by: Kim Swissdorf