Fiscal Estimate - 2021 Session

☑ Original ☐ Updated	☐ Corrected ☐ Supple	mental				
LRB Number 21-4349/1	Introduction Number SB-56	2				
Description extension of eligibility under the Medical Assistance program for postpartum women						
Fiscal Effect						
Appropriations Reve	ease Existing enues rease Existing enues Decrease Costs - May be absorb within agency's be					
Permissive Mandatory Perr 2. Decrease Costs 4. Dec	5.Types of Local Governme Bease Revenue Mandatory rease Revenue Missive Mandatory Towns Village Counties Others School WTCS Districts District	e Cities				
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropri						
GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEGS s. 20.435 4(b) and 4(o)						
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date				
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives DHS 10/26/2021

LRB Number	21-4349/1	Introduction Number	SB-562	Estimate Type	Original	
Description						
extension of eligibility under the Medical Assistance program for postpartum women						

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, pregnant individuals in Wisconsin are eligible for Medicaid at a higher income threshold than non-pregnant adults. Pregnant individuals with incomes up to 306 percent of the federal poverty level are eligible for Wisconsin Medicaid. As required by federal code and state statute, this eligibility extends to the last day of the month that contains the 60th day following the end of the pregnancy. After this post-pregnancy period, Medicaid members can retain eligibility as a parent or childless adult if their income is below 100 percent of the federal poverty level.

Under 2021 Wisconsin Act 58, the Department of Health Services is directed to seek federal approval for a state plan amendment or waiver to extend eligibility to the last day of the month that contains the 90th day following the end of the pregnancy. Eligibility would only be extended if federal approval is granted. The Department of Health Services has not yet sought the section 1115 waiver required for an extension of post-pregnancy eligibility.

This bill directs the Department of Health Services to seek federal approval for a state plan amendment or waiver to extend post-pregnancy eligibility to the last day of the month that contains the 365th day following the end of the pregnancy. Eligibility would only be extended if federal approval is granted. The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 changed federal Medicaid law to allow states the option on an ongoing basis to extend post-pregnancy coverage to 365 days through a state plan amendment.

It is projected that extending post-pregnancy coverage to the last day of the month that contains the 365th day following the end of a pregnancy would increase average monthly Medicaid enrollment by 6,150 members, and these members qualifying for the extended eligibility are projected to incur costs of approximately \$354 per month, on average. The total annualized cost of this increased enrollment is projected to be \$26.1 million all funds (\$10.4 million GPR) compared to the current 60-day eligibility period. Act 58 appropriated \$2.5 million all funds and \$1 million GPR in FY23 to fund costs associated with extending enrollment from the current 60 days to 90 days. When subtracting the amounts already appropriated in Act 58, the total annualized cost of this bill is projected to be \$23.6 million all funds (\$9.4 million GPR).

Long-Range Fiscal Implications