



Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #130

State and Local Government Policy Coordination (DOA -- General Agency Provisions)

[LFB 2001-03 Budget Summary: Page 55, #10 (part)]

CURRENT LAW

No provision.

GOVERNOR

Direct the Department of Administration (DOA) to coordinate, to the extent possible, state policies governing the relationship between state and local governmental units (defined as political subdivisions of the state, special purpose districts, instrumentalities or corporations of these subdivisions and special districts and any combination of the foregoing) and attempt to make such policies as uniform as practicable. Authorize DOA to attempt to mediate disputes between local governmental units and state agencies (defined as all agencies created by law or by the Wisconsin Constitution, including the legislative and judicial branches, but excluding the state authorities) to the extent feasible.

Direct the Secretary of DOA to appoint a state-local government coordinator outside the classified service to undertake these activities, enumerate this position in the statutory listing of unclassified state positions and authorize the Secretary to set the salary of the coordinator. Convert 1.0 FTE undesignated base level GPR-funded classified position in DOA to 1.0 FTE unclassified position. Base level funding associated with this undesignated position would be available to support the costs of this new unclassified position.

DISCUSSION POINTS

1. This provision was identified by the Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Finance as

one of several items primarily of a non-fiscal policy nature that should be considered in separate legislation. Consequently the statutory modifications associated with this provision have been deleted from the budget.

2. However, 1.0 GPR undesignated position and associated base level funding would have been reallocated within DOA to staff this proposed new function.

3. Consequently, an argument can be made that the undesignated position and associated base level funding were not deemed to be part of any essential function in the Department if they could be reallocated to this new purpose. It is estimated that a position funded at a level approximately equivalent to a bureau director (salary and fringe costs of \$74,100 GPR annually) would have been reallocated.

4. If the Committee concurs that this undesignated position does not currently represent a high priority staffing need for the Department and a further base level reduction should be made, it could delete \$74,100 GPR annually and 1.0 GPR position.

5. Alternatively, the Committee may wish to retain the position and associated base level funding in the event that the state and local government policy coordination initiative advances as separate legislation and would need to be staffed. In addition, the Department would argue that it has already offered base level position reductions of its own (-\$40,700 GPR annually and -0.8 GPR position) as part of its budget recommendations and has also been subjected to a further 5% base level reduction to its GPR-funded general program operations appropriations. Consequently, additional base level reductions would be difficult for the agency to absorb. If the Committee believes that these arguments have merit, it could retain the base funding and position authority that would have been reallocated to the state and local government policy coordination function.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Delete \$74,100 GPR and 1.0 GPR position annually associated with an undesignated position that would have been reallocated to a state and local government policy coordination function.

<u>Alternative 1</u>	<u>GPR</u>
2001-03 FUNDING (Change to Bill)	- \$148,200
2002-03 POSITIONS (Change to Bill)	- 1.00

2. Take no action.

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