



Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #403

Minor Policy and Technical Changes -- Election Campaign Fund Reestimate (Government Accountability Board and Miscellaneous Appropriations)

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 Government Accountability 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 2008-09, taxfilers made WECF designations totaling \$203,463. The base level expenditure estimate for the election campaign payments sum sufficient appropriation is \$242,900 GPR annually.

GOVERNOR

No provision.

MODIFICATION

Reduce estimated transfers from the election campaign payments sum sufficient appropriation by \$39,400 GPR annually to \$203,500 GPR, to reflect the reduced current level of \$1 individual income tax check-off designations to the WECF.

Explanation: During the 2008-09 state fiscal year, the transfer from the election campaign payments sum sufficient appropriation to the WECF equaled \$203,500 GPR. This estimate reflects the current level of income tax check-off designations.

Change to Bill	
Funding	
GPR	- \$78,800

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