Fiscal Estimate - 2023 Session

☑ Original ☐ Updated	☐ Correcte	d \square	Supplemental		
LRB Number 23-5429/1	Introductio	n Number 🛚 🖊	4B-1000		
Description adopting gender-neutral terminology and incorpo	rating gender-neutral	marriage and pare	entage rights		
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Appropriations Reve	ease Existing	☐ Increase Costs absorb within a ☐ Yes ☐ Decrease Costs	□No		
Permissive Mandatory Permi 2. Decrease Costs 4. Decre	ase Revenue ssive Mandatory ase Revenue ssive Mandatory	5.Types of Local G Units Affected Towns [Counties [School Districts	Government Village Cities Others WTCS Districts		
Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEGS					
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signatu	re	Date		
DCF/ Sam Matteson (608) 422-6345	Adam Hartung (608) 422-6346		1/29/2024		

Fiscal Estimate Narratives DCF 1/29/2024

LRB Number 23-5429/1	Introduction Number	AB-1000	Estimate Type	Original		
Description						
adopting gender-neutral terminology and incorporating gender-neutral marriage and parentage rights						

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill recognizes same-sex marriage by making references in the statutes to spouses gender-neutral, with the intent of harmonizing the Wisconsin Statutes with the holding of the U.S. Supreme Court in Obergefell v. Hodges (2015), which recognizes that same-sex couples have a fundamental constitutional right to marriage. The bill also recognizes legal parentage for same-sex couples under certain circumstances and adopts gender-neutral parentage terminology.

The primary Department of Children and Families programs impacted by the bill include child welfare (including adoption) governed by the Children's Code under Chapter 48, as well as establishing paternity and child support orders in family court under Chapter 767. DCF's child care programs may also be affected as their forms and policies may need to be updated to adopt gender-neutral parentage terminology.

Overall, the fiscal effect of language in the bill making spousal references gender neutral is indeterminate. It is unknown at this time the degree to which current department information technology systems (e.g., eWiSACWIS and KIDS), forms, and other materials used in program administration would need to be changed as a result of the bill. The department will be more likely to be able to absorb costs associated with changing forms or other program materials. The degree to which the department will be able to absorb costs relating to information technology systems changes will depend on the number of hours required in each system to change references for spouses to be gender neutral.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications