



**Fiscal Estimate Narratives**  
**DOR 3/14/2008**

LRB Number	<b>07-3585/2</b>	Introduction Number	<b>AB-0806</b>	Estimate Type	<b>Original</b>
<b>Description</b> An official state language, use of English for governmental written expression, and requiring state agencies and local governmental units to provide separate line items for the costs of documents and other materials that are not in English					

**Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate**

This bill establishes English as the official state language and requires all written expressions or statements by state and local governments in Wisconsin to be in English except if another language is appropriate for specific circumstances.

The bill further requires that state agencies and local governments maintain a separate appropriation or appropriation line for all costs related to the preparation, translation, printing, and recording of documents, records, brochures, pamphlets, flyers, or other material in languages other than English.

While the bill will require state agencies to make modifications to their budget and accounting systems to create a separate budget line to identify expenditures on non-English materials, the Department of Revenue does not expect these costs for the department to be significant.

Local government costs under the bill are likely to vary depending on the flexibility of the budget and accounting systems used by individual local governments. While the need to refine or redefine accounting and budgeting procedures to identify costs for non-English materials may be concentrated in more populous counties, municipalities, and school districts, the degree to which the requirements of the bill will require additional expenditures is unknown.

**Long-Range Fiscal Implications**