

Fiscal Estimate - 2009 Session

Original Updated Corrected Supplemental

LRB Number 09-3161/1		Introduction Number SB-292	
Description The exemption of State Historical Society books from state printing requirements			
Fiscal Effect			
State:			
<input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect			
<input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues	
<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations		<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues	
<input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations		<input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs	
Local:			
<input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs			
<input type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate			
1. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs		3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory		<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs		4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue	
<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory		<input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory	
5. Types of Local Government Units Affected			
<input type="checkbox"/> Towns		<input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities	
<input type="checkbox"/> Counties		<input type="checkbox"/> Others	
<input type="checkbox"/> School Districts		<input type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts	
Fund Sources Affected		Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations	
<input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS 163			
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date	
SHS/ Greg Parkinson (608) 264-6581	Greg Parkinson (608) 264-6581	9/23/2009	

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

SHS 9/23/2009

LRB Number	09-3161/1	Introduction Number	SB-292	Estimate Type	Original
Description The exemption of State Historical Society books from state printing requirements					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The Wisconsin Historical Society supports SB 292. A relatively minor change to a statute enacted in 1945 would enable the Wisconsin Historical Society Press to print books in the same fashion granted to the UW Press and allow it to improve earned revenues from sales for the Society with no impact on GPR.

Under Wisconsin Statutes 35.01(3), the Society is exempted from using the state printing contract for its hard cover books and for the Wisconsin Magazine of History and procures book printing by individual competitive bid. However, paperback books are not provided with this exemption. As a result, the Society has had challenges with the quality of the printing of its paperback publications, including returns by customers for refunds. The 1945 statute was intended to provide an exemption for all Society publications intended for resale. The use of the term "hard cover" in the law was designed to distinguish between more ephemeral printing that was not intended for retail sale as opposed to "books," which were sold on the retail market. In 1945, paperback books were a relatively new form of publication and while the Society began to publish in paperback in the 1960s, it did not do sell these in any significant numbers until the 1990s. Today customers expect books to be available in high quality paperbacks. The requirement that paperback books intended for the retail market have to be printed on the state contract instead of by individual competitive bid puts the Society at a competitive disadvantage and hurts its ability to support its programs through earned revenue.

If the words "hard cover" were deleted from the statute as proposed in SB 292, it would provide an exemption identical to that provided to the University of Wisconsin Press, which currently publishes both hardcover and paperback books and acquires all of its book printing by competitive bid. The result of this change will ensure that the most appropriate printer will be acquired for books for retail sales and thus assist the Society in generating earned revenues. This change would affect only about five printing jobs per year. All other Society printing would continue to be handled under the state printing contract.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Enactment of this legislation will lead to increased net revenues from the publication and sales of Wisconsin Historical Society Press paperback books.