

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

LRB 2/21/2012

LRB Number	11-2637/2	Introduction Number	AB-0351	Estimate Type	Original
Description Discontinuance of the printing and publication of the Wisconsin Blue Book					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The purchase order for the printing of 64,600 copies of the 2011-2012 Blue Book is for \$299,870.71; the final invoice is not available at this time. In Fiscal Year 2010, the LRB also printed Inside the Blue Book and a Study Guide to the Blue Book for a total printing cost of \$112.67; the costs for the 2011-2012 versions are not available at this time. In Fiscal Year 2010, the Legislative Reference Bureau paid the Department of Administration \$27,900 for the storage, shipping, and handling of the Blue Book. All of these amounts are paid from the appropriation under s. 20.765 (1) (d). This appropriation would be reduced under this bill in the biennium in which the bill takes effect. The 2011-12 fiscal biennium would not be affected as the 2011-2012 Blue Book has been printed.

At this point, we do not know the fiscal implication for the appropriation under s. 20.765 (3) (b). Under s. 13.92 (1) (a) 1., the reference section must provide reference services for members of the legislature, public officials, students, and the general public. Therefore, under this statutory requirement, this information may still need to be compiled by the reference section and it may need to be stored in one location on the LRB Web site. So the LRB will evaluate staffing needs but cannot determine at this time to what extent staffing could be reduced. No LRB employee has, as his or her sole duty, the publication of the Blue Book.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

The costs for printing copies of the Blue Book and corresponding publications, along with the costs for storing, shipping, and handling the Blue Book, would be eliminated.