

### Fiscal Estimate - 2011 Session

Original       Updated       Corrected       Supplemental

|   |   |             |
|---|---|-------------|
| <b>LRB Number</b> 11-4109/1   | <b>Introduction Number</b> SB-485   |             |
| <b>Description</b><br>Accessible instructional materials for students with disabilities enrolled in institutions of higher education  |   |             |
| <b>Fiscal Effect</b>  |   |             |
| <b>State:</b>   |   |             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No State Fiscal Effect<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate  |   |             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Appropriations<br><input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Appropriations<br><input type="checkbox"/> Create New Appropriations  | <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Existing Revenues<br><input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Existing Revenues<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs - May be possible to absorb within agency's budget<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No<br><input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs |             |
| <b>Local:</b>   |   |             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No Local Government Costs<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indeterminate   |   |             |
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increase Costs<br><input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mandatory<br>2. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Costs<br><input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory  | 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase Revenue<br><input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory<br>4. <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease Revenue<br><input type="checkbox"/> Permissive <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory  |             |
| 5. Types of Local Government Units Affected<br><input type="checkbox"/> Towns <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Cities<br><input type="checkbox"/> Counties <input type="checkbox"/> Others<br><input type="checkbox"/> School Districts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WTCS Districts |   |             |
| <b>Fund Sources Affected</b>  |   |             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GPR <input type="checkbox"/> FED <input type="checkbox"/> PRO <input type="checkbox"/> PRS <input type="checkbox"/> SEG <input type="checkbox"/> SEGS  |   |             |
| <b>Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations</b>   |   |             |
| <b>Agency/Prepared By</b>   | <b>Authorized Signature</b>   | <b>Date</b> |
| WTCS/ Nancy Merrill (608) 267-9514  | Morna Foy (608) 266-2449  | 2/22/2012   |

**Fiscal Estimate Narratives**  
**WTCS 2/22/2012**

|  |                  |                     |               |               |                 |
|--|------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| LRB Number   | <b>11-4109/1</b> | Introduction Number | <b>SB-485</b> | Estimate Type | <b>Original</b> |
| <b>Description</b><br>Accessible instructional materials for students with disabilities enrolled in institutions of higher education |                  |                     |               |               |                 |

**Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate**

SB 485 includes requirements that Wisconsin Technical Colleges assist students who require accessible instructional materials. Under the bill, WTCS colleges may request materials from publishers in an agreed-upon electronic format or colleges may convert materials themselves or arrange for the conversion of materials. Colleges that convert instructional materials into alternative formats may share the alternative format versions with other colleges serving students with disabilities.

While WTCS colleges already work with students to ensure the availability of accessible materials, the bill could increase costs for WTCS as the number of students seeking accessible materials increases or as students requiring accessible materials enroll in new programs, courses or colleges where accessible materials have not been previously requested. Colleges also will need to track requests submitted and materials received and comply with reporting requirements to publishers, which will require staff time.

The possible additional costs are indeterminate because they will depend primarily on the number of students who attend WTCS colleges and who need materials in alternative formats because they are blind or visually impaired or who have specific learning disabilities affecting the activity of reading and who need reasonable accommodations to read. For the 2010-11 academic year, approximately 6,800 WTCS students were identified as having disabilities that might affect the activity of reading, including students who were visually impaired, learning disabled, had traumatic brain injury, or who have multiple handicaps.

**Long-Range Fiscal Implications**