

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DOA 4/18/2017

LRB Number	17-2734/1	Introduction Number	AB-0235	Estimate Type	Original
Description housing grants					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

2017 AB 235 would remove the term "transitional" from provisions utilized for the administration of homelessness programs by the Department under s. 16.306, and removes the requirement under s. 16.303, Stats, that the funds awarded under s. 20.505 (7) (b), Stats., must be regionally balanced.

The Department's Supportive Housing unit currently administers several homelessness and special needs programs funded by federal and state resources, including the transitional housing grant program under s. 16.306, Stats., and the HCRI (Housing Cost Reduction Initiative) program under s. 16.303, Stats. \$300,000 is allocated annually for the transitional housing program, and \$2.6 million is allocated in each biennium for the HCRI program.

The removal of "transitional" from the language addresses that other types of programs are effective in assisting individuals and families moving to independent living other than a specifically defined transitional housing program. The Department anticipates that this change would not have a fiscal impact on the administrative activities of the Department.

The removal of the requirement that HCRI funds be balanced among the regions of the state would create an administrative efficiency for the Department and applicants for the funds, resulting from the ability to award a single contract for more than one region, and to consolidate reporting requirements and payments associated with a contract. Currently, a single entity may provide services in more than one region, necessitating the awarding of a grant/contract for each region.

2017 AB 235 would ensure the full utilization of the funds provided under s. 16.306, Stats, and provide an opportunity for applicants to leverage the availability of federal funds, increasing the availability of funds in Wisconsin communities who utilize models other than the transitional housing model to facilitate the movement of individuals and families to independent housing. This amount is indeterminate.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications