

HEALTH SERVICES
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE -- ADMINISTRATION

Funeral and Cemetery Aids -- Cost-to-Continue Funding
[LFB Paper 369]

Motion:

Move to modify the bill by transferring \$970,700 GPR in 2015-16 and \$428,700 GPR in 2016-17 from the DHS appropriation for Wisconsin funeral and cemetery aids program (WFCAP) to the Joint Committee on Finance program supplements appropriation. Provide that the Department of Health Services may request the Committee to transfer funding from these reserved amounts to the DHS WFCAP appropriation, using the procedures under s. 13.10 of the statutes, if the Department determines that supplemental funding is needed to fully support claims costs in the 2015-17 biennium.

Note:

The bill would increase funding for WFCAP by \$382,900 GPR in 2015-16 and \$862,600 GPR in 2016-17 to fund the administration's estimates of the amount of funding that will be required to pay claims under that program in the 2015-17 biennium, based on current law.

LFB Budget Paper #369 provides an alternative estimate of the funding that would be required to fully fund claims payments in the 2015-17 biennium, which is based on a 10% annual increase in the total amount of claims payments, beginning in fiscal year 2014-15, compared to the 2013-14 actual claims paid. Funding changes to the bill to reflect this alternative estimate is provided under Alternative A2 in Paper #369.

This motion would adopt the alternative funding estimate. However, rather than delete funding for the program from the bill, the amount of the funding reduction would be transferred to the Joint Committee on Finance program supplements appropriation, which would be reserved for this program. If the amount of funding budgeted for this entitlement program in DHS is insufficient to fully fund claims, DHS could request the Committee to release funding from the Committee's appropriation to the DHS WFCAP appropriation under the procedures identified under s. 13.10 of the statutes.

Posted By:
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