

# Fiscal Services Division Legislative Services Agency Fiscal Note

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HF 2074 - Stillbirth Reporting (LSB 5237 YH)  
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Fiscal Note Version - New  
Requested by Representative Janet Petersen

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## **Description**

House File 2074 renames the Birth Defects Institute to the Center for Congenital and Inherited Disorders and expands the Center's duties to include the study of the causes and prevention of all congenital and inherited disorders, including stillbirths. In addition, the Bill requires the Department of Public Health to establish a work group to develop protocol and implementation guidelines for the evaluation of causes and prevention of stillbirths and requires the results of the work group be submitted in a report to the General Assembly by January 15, 2005.

## **Assumptions**

1. The work group will consist of up to 15 volunteer members and will meet four times in FY 2005.
2. The work group will study and adapt the protocols and implementation guidelines used by the Wisconsin Stillbirth Service Program for use by the Center for Congenital and Inherited Disorders.
3. The Center will have additional duties and costs associated with stillbirth assessments, including, but not limited to, data management, clinical examinations, review of medical charts, prenatal history, and maternal risk factors, as well as diagnostic assessment, interpretation, and summary.
4. The estimated cost for a comprehensive stillbirth assessment will be \$1,500 per evaluation.
5. Fetal death, or stillbirth, is defined as a baby born after 20 gestational weeks or that weighs 350 grams.
6. The State recorded an annual average of 205 fetal deaths from Calendar Year 2000 to 2002. Using the average of 205, it is estimated that 32 (15.8%) of these will be referred to the Center for assessment per year.
7. It is unknown how many of the 91 birthing hospitals in the State will choose to participate in offering to refer cases to the Center, and it is also unknown how many parents will wish to have cases referred to the Center.
8. The Department of Public Health will have support costs associated with scheduling workgroup meetings, including per diem costs for some workgroup members, and in preparing the required report in FY 2005. In addition, the Department will have costs associated with conducting educational outreach for hospitals that choose to participate during the last half of FY 2005 and in FY 2006.
9. The initial contact with hospitals regarding participation will be done by telephone or mail. If a hospital expresses interest in participating after the initial contact is made, education will be scheduled. In some cases, it may be possible to educate several hospitals at one time in a central location.
10. The Bureau of Vital Statistics, Department of Public Health, which is currently required to collect and preserve statistics related to records of fetal death by Section 144.29, Code of Iowa, will not do case identification, data management related to the Program, or make case referrals to the Center.

## **Fiscal Impact**

House File 2074 is estimated to have a fiscal impact of \$28,000 to the Department of Public Health in FY 2005. In FY 2006, the Bill is estimated to have a combined fiscal impact of \$86,000 to the Department of Public Health and the Center for Congenital and Inherited Disorders. The table below outlines these costs.

| <b>State</b>         | <b>Year 1<br/>FY 2005</b> | <b>Year 2<br/>FY 2006</b> |
|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Public Health        |                           |                           |
| Workgroup Meetings   | \$ 3,000                  | \$ 0                      |
| Required Report      | 5,000                     | 0                         |
| Educational Outreach | 20,000                    | 30,000                    |
| Center               |                           |                           |
| Case Assessments     | 0                         | 48,000                    |
| Database Management  | 0                         | 8,000                     |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>\$ 28,000</b>          | <b>\$ 86,000</b>          |

The amounts provided in the above chart are additional General Fund expenses that will not be absorbed within the Department's and the Center's existing budgets.

## **Sources**

Department of Public Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics  
Legislative Services Agency, Fiscal Services Division  
University of Wisconsin - Madison, Clinical Genetics Center

Dennis C Prouty

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February 24, 2004

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The fiscal note and correctional impact statement for this bill was prepared pursuant to Joint Rule 17 and pursuant to Section 2.56, Code of Iowa. Data used in developing this fiscal note and correctional impact statement are available from the Fiscal Services Division, Legislative Services Agency to members of the Legislature upon request.

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