

LEGISLATURE

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

| Source of Funds | FY25 Adjusted Base | FY26 Recommended | % Change Over FY25 | FY27 Recommended | % Change Over FY26 |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| GPR | 97,973,400 | 98,872,500 | 0.9 | 98,931,100 | 0.1 |
| PR-S | 2,597,100 | 2,711,400 | 4.4 | 2,711,800 | 0.0 |
| PR-O | 20,000 | 20,000 | 0.0 | 20,000 | 0.0 |
| TOTAL | 100,590,500 | 101,603,900 | 1.0 | 101,662,900 | 0.1 |

FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION SUMMARY

| Source of Funds | FY25 Adjusted Base | FY26 Recommended | FTE Change Over FY25 | FY27 Recommended | FTE Change Over FY26 |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| GPR | 768.17 | 771.17 | 3.00 | 771.17 | 0.00 |
| PR-S | 19.80 | 19.80 | 0.00 | 19.80 | 0.00 |
| TOTAL | 787.97 | 790.97 | 3.00 | 790.97 | 0.00 |

AGENCY DESCRIPTION

The legislative branch of Wisconsin state government, through representatives who are popularly elected to the Senate and Assembly, enacts the laws which govern the state. Two programs provide the basic structure for the Legislature's operation.

Program 1 includes the two houses of the Legislature, the 99-member Assembly and the 33-member Senate. The goals and objectives of this program are to enact the laws which govern society in the state and provide legislative oversight of executive branch activities.

Program 3 includes the legislative service agencies, staff support for operation of the legislative computer and data processing system, and dues for membership in national associations as approved by the co-chairpersons of the Joint Committee on Legislative Organization. The service agencies provide both houses of the Legislature with professional staff assistance in policy development, fiscal analysis, bill drafting, library services, revision of statutes, state auditing, interim session research, human resources and support for the information technology infrastructure of the Legislature.

The statutorily-created service agencies include the Legislative Reference Bureau, Legislative Audit Bureau, Legislative Fiscal Bureau, Joint Legislative Council, Legislative Human Resources Office and Legislative Technology Services Bureau.

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MISSION

Under Article IV, Section 1 of the Wisconsin Constitution, "The legislative power shall be vested in a senate and assembly."

According to its constitutional and statutory responsibilities, the mission of the Legislature is to enact laws which govern the state and provide legislative oversight of executive branch activities.

To assist in the conduct of its mission, the Legislature has created six, nonpartisan service agencies: Legislative Reference Bureau, Legislative Council Staff, Legislative Fiscal Bureau, Legislative Audit Bureau, Legislative Technology Services Bureau and Legislative Human Resources Office. The mission of these agencies is to serve both houses of the Legislature, legislative committees and the individual members of the Senate and Assembly. This staff function is provided through the following: (1) bill drafting; (2) research; (3) legal, fiscal and policy analyses; (4) audit and performance evaluations; (5) technical support and information technology services; and (6) human resources.

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GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Legislative Powers and Duties
2. Legislative Records Retention
3. Senate Confirmation of Certain Board or Council Members
4. Joint Committee on Finance Passive Review Objections
5. Legislative Technology Services Bureau Positions
6. Legislative Documents
7. Funding for Network Services
8. Membership Dues in National Associations
9. Contractual Services for Actuarial Studies
10. Actuarial Audit Services
11. Standard Budget Adjustments

ITEMS NOT APPROVED

12. Assembly Supplies and Services Increase

Table 1
Department Budget Summary by Funding Source (in thousands of dollars)

| | ACTUAL FY24 | ADJUSTED BASE FY25 | AGENCY REQUEST | | GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION | |
|-------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|-------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| | | | FY26 | FY27 | FY26 | FY27 |
| GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE | \$88,698.2 | \$97,973.4 | \$99,556.4 | \$99,542.7 | \$98,872.5 | \$98,931.1 |
| State Operations | 88,698.2 | 97,973.4 | 99,556.4 | 99,542.7 | 98,872.5 | 98,931.1 |
| PROGRAM REVENUE (2) | \$2,405.9 | \$2,617.1 | \$2,731.4 | \$2,731.8 | \$2,731.4 | \$2,731.8 |
| State Operations | 2,405.9 | 2,617.1 | 2,731.4 | 2,731.8 | 2,731.4 | 2,731.8 |
| TOTALS - ANNUAL | \$91,104.1 | \$100,590.5 | \$102,287.8 | \$102,274.5 | \$101,603.9 | \$101,662.9 |
| State Operations | 91,104.1 | 100,590.5 | 102,287.8 | 102,274.5 | 101,603.9 | 101,662.9 |

(2) Includes Program Revenue-Service and Program Revenue-Other

Table 2
Department Position Summary by Funding Source (in FTE positions)

| | ADJUSTED BASE FY25 | AGENCY REQUEST | | GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------|------------------------------|--------|
| | | FY26 | FY27 | FY26 | FY27 |
| GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE | 768.17 | 772.17 | 772.17 | 771.17 | 771.17 |
| State Operations | 768.17 | 772.17 | 772.17 | 771.17 | 771.17 |
| PROGRAM REVENUE (2) | 19.80 | 19.80 | 19.80 | 19.80 | 19.80 |
| State Operations | 19.80 | 19.80 | 19.80 | 19.80 | 19.80 |
| TOTALS - ANNUAL | 787.97 | 791.97 | 791.97 | 790.97 | 790.97 |
| State Operations | 787.97 | 791.97 | 791.97 | 790.97 | 790.97 |

(2) Includes Program Revenue-Service and Program Revenue-Other

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**Table 3
Department Budget Summary by Program (in thousands of dollars)**

| | ACTUAL FY24 | ADJUSTED BASE FY25 | AGENCY REQUEST FY26 | AGENCY REQUEST FY27 | GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY26 | GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY27 |
|---|-------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Enactment of state laws | \$60,801.4 | \$65,668.0 | \$65,849.8 | \$65,849.8 | \$65,349.8 | \$65,349.8 |
| 3. Service agencies and national associations | \$30,302.7 | \$34,922.5 | \$36,438.0 | \$36,424.7 | \$36,254.1 | \$36,313.1 |
| TOTALS | \$91,104.1 | \$100,590.5 | \$102,287.8 | \$102,274.5 | \$101,603.9 | \$101,662.9 |

**Table 4
Department Position Summary by Program (in FTE positions)**

| | ADJUSTED BASE FY25 | AGENCY REQUEST FY26 | AGENCY REQUEST FY27 | GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY26 | GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY27 |
|---|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Enactment of state laws | 519.00 | 519.00 | 519.00 | 519.00 | 519.00 |
| 3. Service agencies and national associations | 268.97 | 272.97 | 272.97 | 271.97 | 271.97 |
| TOTALS | 787.97 | 791.97 | 791.97 | 790.97 | 790.97 |

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1. Legislative Powers and Duties

The Governor recommends repealing statutory modifications made in 2017 Wisconsin Act 369 during the extraordinary session in December 2018 related to the expansion of legislative powers and duties including: (a) advice and consent of the Senate in relation to certain gubernatorial nominations; (b) ability of the Legislature to retain legal representation for legislators, legislative staff and the Legislature; and (c) approval of Capitol security changes.

2. Legislative Records Retention

| Source of Funds | Agency Request | | | | Governor's Recommendations | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------|---------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| | FY26 | | FY27 | | FY26 | | FY27 | |
| | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions |
| GPR | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 72,300 | 1.00 | 96,400 | 1.00 |
| TOTAL | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 72,300 | 1.00 | 96,400 | 1.00 |

The Governor recommends that records and correspondence of any member of the Legislature be included in the definition of a public record to provide greater transparency for the citizens of Wisconsin. The Governor also recommends providing position authority and related funding at the Legislative Technology Services Bureau to administer the requirement.

3. Senate Confirmation of Certain Board or Council Members

The Governor recommends amending statutory language to clarify that a vacancy is created upon the expiration of the term of a board or council member appointed by the Governor, regardless of the Senate action on a replacement, and allowing holdovers only until the Governor nominates a replacement and makes a provisional appointment as allowed under current law.

4. Joint Committee on Finance Passive Review Objections

The Governor recommends requiring that all objections made by Joint Committee on Finance members to items before the committee under passive review disclose the member and their reason for the objection.

5. Legislative Technology Services Bureau Positions

| Source of Funds | Agency Request | | | | Governor's Recommendations | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------|---------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| | FY26 | | FY27 | | FY26 | | FY27 | |
| | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions |
| GPR | 385,700 | 4.00 | 385,700 | 4.00 | 144,600 | 2.00 | 192,800 | 2.00 |
| TOTAL | 385,700 | 4.00 | 385,700 | 4.00 | 144,600 | 2.00 | 192,800 | 2.00 |

The Governor recommends providing position authority and funding to support the Legislative Technology Services Bureau.

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6. Legislative Documents

| Source of Funds | Agency Request | | | | Governor's Recommendations | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------|---------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| | FY26 | | FY27 | | FY26 | | FY27 | |
| | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions |
| GPR | 300,000 | 0.00 | 300,000 | 0.00 | 300,000 | 0.00 | 300,000 | 0.00 |
| TOTAL | 300,000 | 0.00 | 300,000 | 0.00 | 300,000 | 0.00 | 300,000 | 0.00 |

The Governor recommends providing funding to support increased operational, technology and publishing expenses for the Legislature.

7. Funding for Network Services

| Source of Funds | Agency Request | | | | Governor's Recommendations | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------|---------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| | FY26 | | FY27 | | FY26 | | FY27 | |
| | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions |
| GPR | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | -15,100 | 0.00 | -15,100 | 0.00 |
| TOTAL | 0 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | -15,100 | 0.00 | -15,100 | 0.00 |

The Governor recommends reducing the Legislature's base budget for the reallocation of a portion of network services charges to other offices located in the State Capitol. See Office of the Lieutenant Governor, Item #1; Secretary of State, Item #4; and State Treasurer, Item #2.

8. Membership Dues in National Associations

| Source of Funds | Agency Request | | | | Governor's Recommendations | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------|---------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| | FY26 | | FY27 | | FY26 | | FY27 | |
| | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions |
| GPR | 14,600 | 0.00 | 25,900 | 0.00 | 14,600 | 0.00 | 25,900 | 0.00 |
| TOTAL | 14,600 | 0.00 | 25,900 | 0.00 | 14,600 | 0.00 | 25,900 | 0.00 |

The Governor recommends providing funding for dues to the National Conference of State Legislatures, National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws and National Conference of Insurance Legislators.

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9. Contractual Services for Actuarial Studies

| Source of Funds | Agency Request | | | | Governor's Recommendations | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------|---------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| | FY26 | | FY27 | | FY26 | | FY27 | |
| | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions |
| GPR | 25,000 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 25,000 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 |
| TOTAL | 25,000 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 | 25,000 | 0.00 | 0 | 0.00 |

The Governor recommends providing funding for actuarial studies in support of legislative proposals.

10. Actuarial Audit Services

| Source of Funds | Agency Request | | | | Governor's Recommendations | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------|---------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| | FY26 | | FY27 | | FY26 | | FY27 | |
| | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions |
| PR-S | 75,500 | 0.00 | 71,800 | 0.00 | 75,500 | 0.00 | 71,800 | 0.00 |
| TOTAL | 75,500 | 0.00 | 71,800 | 0.00 | 75,500 | 0.00 | 71,800 | 0.00 |

The Governor recommends providing a one-time increase in expenditure authority to contract for actuarial audit services related to certain accounting standards issued by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

11. Standard Budget Adjustments

| Source of Funds | Agency Request | | | | Governor's Recommendations | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------|---------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| | FY26 | | FY27 | | FY26 | | FY27 | |
| | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions |
| GPR | 357,700 | 0.00 | 357,700 | 0.00 | 357,700 | 0.00 | 357,700 | 0.00 |
| PR-S | 38,800 | 0.00 | 42,900 | 0.00 | 38,800 | 0.00 | 42,900 | 0.00 |
| TOTAL | 396,500 | 0.00 | 400,600 | 0.00 | 396,500 | 0.00 | 400,600 | 0.00 |

The Governor recommends adjusting the Legislature's base budget for: (a) turnover reduction (-\$1,140,800 in each year); (b) full funding of continuing position salaries and fringe benefits (\$1,517,200 in each year); (c) reclassifications and semiautomatic pay progression (\$20,100 in FY26 and \$24,200 in FY27); and (d) minor transfers within the same alpha appropriation.

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ITEMS NOT APPROVED

The following requests are not included in the Governor's budget recommendations for the Legislature.

| Decision Item | Source of Funds | FY26 | | FY27 | |
|---|-----------------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| | | Dollars | Positions | Dollars | Positions |
| 12. Assembly Supplies and Services Increase | GPR | 500,000 | 0.00 | 500,000 | 0.00 |
| TOTAL OF ITEMS NOT APPROVED | GPR | 500,000 | 0.00 | 500,000 | 0.00 |

