



# MEMORANDUM

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## LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

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**To:** Ald. Joe Dudzik  
**From:** Jeff Osterman, Legislative Fiscal Analyst  
**Date:** April 6, 2011  
**Subject:** FISCAL IMPACT OF REDUCING COMMON COUNCIL TO 13 MEMBERS

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The estimated annual savings to be realized from a reduction in the size of the Milwaukee Common Council from 15 to 13 members is **\$345,994**. This amount was derived as follows:

1. Common Council member salary (current rate)	\$73,222
2. Legislative Assistant salary (current rate)	\$39,276
3. Fringe benefits on above (48% in 2011 Budget)	\$53,999
4. Private transportation allowance (\$349/month for 2011)	\$4,188
5. Cell phone charges (based on 2010 total charges of \$27,959 for cell phones issued to 17 elected officials and employees of the Common Council-City Clerk's Office)	\$1,645
6. Aldermanic travel (1/15 of 2011 appropriation for Aldermanic Travel Special Fund)	\$667
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$172,997</b>

$\$172,997 \times 2 = \$345,994$

This figure should be viewed as a conservative estimate – other supplies and services used by Common Council members and funded through the Common Council-City Clerk's operating budget would undoubtedly push the true savings even higher.