



State of Wisconsin
2021 - 2022 LEGISLATURE

LRB-3239/1
JPC:amn

2021 BILL

1 AN ACT *to amend* 20.435 (4) (b); and *to create* 46.283 (4) (k), 46.283 (4) (L),
2 46.283 (6m) and 46.289 of the statutes; **relating to:** family caregiver support
3 program and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a county department, an aging unit, a tribal agency, a nonprofit organization, or a group made up of multiple counties or governing bodies of tribes may apply to the Department of Health Services to operate a resource center. Resource centers provide information and services related to long-term care to the public, including family caregiver support services.

This bill expands the family caregiver support services that are offered in the state. Under the federal Older Americans Act of 1965, states receive grants to provide support services to family caregivers and older relative caregivers. Among those federal grants, some are allocated to certain family caregivers of individuals who are at least 60 years of age. This bill directs DHS to allocate additional funding to resource centers to expand the support services for family caregivers to include certain family caregivers of individuals who are between the ages of 19 and 59.

Additionally, this bill states that resource centers must designate a caregiver coordinator who must manage or coordinate all state and federal moneys dedicated in the geographic area for the family caregiver support program, the Alzheimer's family and caregiver support program, and any other statewide family caregiver support program. This caregiver coordinator must prioritize cultural competence in coordinating moneys for family caregivers and must utilize all available sources of funding to reduce the duplication of caregiver services.

BILL

For further information see the state and local fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 20.435 (4) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 20.435 (4) (b) *Medical Assistance program benefits.* Biennially, the amounts
3 in the schedule to provide a portion of the state share of Medical Assistance program
4 benefits administered under subch. IV of ch. 49, for a portion of the Badger Care
5 health care program under s. 49.665, to provide a portion of the Medical Assistance
6 program benefits administered under subch. IV of ch. 49 that are not also provided
7 under par. (o), to provide a portion of the facility payments under 1999 Wisconsin Act
8 9, section 9123 (9m), to fund services provided by resource centers under s. 46.283,
9 for services under the family care benefit under s. 46.284 (5), for the community
10 options program under s. 46.27, 2017 stats., for the family caregiver support program
11 under s. 46.289, for assisting victims of diseases, as provided in ss. 49.68, 49.683, and
12 49.685, and for reduction of any operating deficits as specified in 2005 Wisconsin Act
13 15, section 3. Notwithstanding s. 20.002 (1), the department may transfer from this
14 appropriation account to the appropriation account under sub. (5) (kc) funds in the
15 amount of and for the purposes specified in s. 46.485. Notwithstanding ss. 20.001
16 (3) (b) and 20.002 (1), the department may credit or deposit into this appropriation
17 account and may transfer between fiscal years funds that it transfers from the
18 appropriation account under sub. (5) (kc) for the purposes specified in s. 46.485 (3r).

19 **SECTION 2.** 46.283 (4) (k) of the statutes is created to read:

20 46.283 (4) (k) Create a marketing plan to increase public knowledge of
21 caregiver support programs and other programs available through a resource center.

BILL

1 **SECTION 3.** 46.283 (4) (L) of the statutes is created to read:

2 46.283 (4) (L) Measure the impact of caregiver support programs on reducing
3 caregiver burden, particularly within underserved communities.

4 **SECTION 4.** 46.283 (6m) of the statutes is created to read:

5 46.283 (6m) CAREGIVER COORDINATOR. A resource center shall designate a
6 caregiver coordinator who shall manage and coordinate all available state and
7 federal moneys dedicated in the geographic area of the family caregiver support
8 program under s. 46.289, the Alzheimer's family and caregiver support program
9 under s. 46.87, and any other statewide family caregiver support program. A
10 caregiver coordinator shall do all of the following:

11 (a) Prioritize cultural competence in coordinating moneys for family
12 caregivers.

13 (b) Utilize all available sources of funding to reduce the duplication of caregiver
14 services.

15 **SECTION 5.** 46.289 of the statutes is created to read:

16 **46.289 Family caregiver support program.** (1) The department shall
17 allocate moneys to resource centers to be used for the administration and
18 implementation of a family caregiver support program for family caregivers
19 providing care to individuals between the ages of 19 and 59.

20 (2) The department shall ensure that at least all of the following are available
21 to a family caregiver who contacts a family caregiver support program for service:

22 (a) Short-term respite care, including nontraditional forms of caregiver relief.

23 (b) Supplemental services including adaptive equipment, assistive technology,
24 home modifications, transportation, and other resources or supplies necessary to
25 care for the person in his or her home.

BILL**SECTION 5**

1 (c) Support groups, counseling, and training to help caregivers in solving
2 problems related to their caregiver role.

3 (d) Information on other available services to assist the caregiver.

4 (e) Assistance to caregivers in gaining access to services.

5 **(3)** For purposes of this section, a “family caregiver” is an individual who is at
6 least 18 years of age.

7 **SECTION 6. Fiscal changes.**

8 (1) In the schedule under s. 20.005 (3) for the appropriation for the department
9 of health services under s. 20.435 (4) (b), the dollar amount for fiscal years 2021-22
10 and 2022-23 are each increased by \$4,000,000 for resource centers under s. 46.283
11 to provide additional resources, information, and support to family caregivers, and
12 for the family caregiver support program under s. 46.289.

13 (END)