



State of Wisconsin  
2021 - 2022 LEGISLATURE

LRBs0175/1  
JAM/MED/EHS:all

**ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1,  
TO ASSEMBLY BILL 336**

June 9, 2021 - Offered by Representatives DOYLE, S. RODRIGUEZ, VINING, CONLEY, HESSELBEIN, HINTZ, VRUWINK, ANDRACA, SNODGRASS, SHELTON, EMERSON, HAYWOOD, SHANKLAND, BOWEN, BILLINGS, RIEMER, POPE, CONSIDINE, SUBECK, SPREITZER, STUBBS, ANDERSON, L. MYERS, CABRERA, BROSTOFF, BALDEH, MOORE OMOKUNDE, OHNSTAD, HONG, B. MEYERS and MILROY.

1 **AN ACT to repeal** 49.155 (6) (e); **to amend** 20.445 (1) (bm), 49.175 (1) (qm), 106.27  
2 (2g) (a) 1., 106.27 (2g) (a) 2. and 106.27 (3); and **to create** 20.437 (2) (c), 20.445  
3 (1) (bp), 20.445 (1) (bq), 20.445 (1) (bv), 20.445 (1) (bw), 20.445 (1) (cm), 49.133,  
4 106.27 (1p), 106.27 (1q), 106.274, 106.28 and 106.29 of the statutes; **relating**  
5 **to:** a child care quality improvement program, green jobs training programs,  
6 pandemic workforce training programs, a worker connection program, a health  
7 care recruitment initiative, pandemic recovery grants, providing an exemption  
8 from emergency rule procedures, granting rule-making authority, and making  
9 an appropriation.

---

*Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

**EMPLOYMENT**

***Worker Connection program***

This bill requires the Department of Workforce Development to establish a worker connection program to be administered by DWD to help prospective employee

participants prepare for and enter quality jobs in targeted employment sectors identified by DWD as having high opportunities for career growth.

***Pandemic workforce training program grants***

This bill creates a pandemic workforce training program to be administered by DWD. Under the program, DWD is required to award grants to public and private organizations for the development and implementation of pandemic workforce training programs. The grants may be used for virtual and in-person job training, employment navigators or coaches, skill assessment, transportation, soft skill development, career or talent search services, and other programs to return employees to the labor market. The bill also permits DWD to require a public or private organization, as a condition of receiving a grant, to provide matching funds at a percentage to be determined by DWD.

***Pandemic recovery grants***

This bill requires DWD to establish and operate a program to provide grants to local workforce development boards to fund pandemic recovery efforts to emphasize training, skill development, and economic recovery for individuals and businesses. The grants may be used for virtual and in-person job training, employment navigators or coaches, skill assessment, transportation, soft skill development, career or talent search services, and other programs to return employees to the labor market.

***Green jobs training program grants***

This bill creates a green jobs training program to be administered by DWD. Under the program, DWD is required to award grants to public and private organizations for the development and implementation of green jobs training programs. The bill defines green jobs as jobs that produce goods or provide services that benefit the environment or conserve natural resources. The bill also permits DWD to require a public or private organization, as a condition of receiving a grant, to provide matching funds at a percentage to be determined by DWD.

***Health care recruitment initiative***

This bill requires DWD, in coordination with local workforce development boards, to 1) undertake a statewide recruitment initiative to promote and connect individuals with nurse aide instructional programs and employment opportunities and to promote other health care provider employment opportunities and 2) create a free, four-hour course that individuals may take to explore career opportunities within the field of human services or health care delivery.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

***Child care quality improvement program***

This bill eliminates the current law method by which the Department of Children and Families may modify payments to child care providers under Wisconsin Shares based on a child care provider's rating under the quality rating system known as Young Star. The bill instead authorizes DCF to establish a program for making monthly payments and monthly per-child payments to certified child care providers, licensed child care centers, and child care programs established or contracted for by a school board. The bill allows DCF to promulgate rules to

implement the program, including establishing eligibility requirements and payment amounts and setting requirements for how recipients may use the payments. The bill funds the program through a new appropriation and by allocating federal moneys, including child care development funds and moneys received under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant program.

Wisconsin Shares is a part of the Wisconsin Works program under current law, which DCF administers and which provides work experience and benefits for low-income custodial parents who are at least 18 years old. Under current law, an individual who is the parent of a child under the age of 13 or, if the child is disabled, under the age of 19, who needs child care services to participate in various education or work activities, and who satisfies other eligibility criteria may receive a child care subsidy for child care services under Wisconsin Shares.

Under current law, DCF sets the maximum payment rates for child care providers who provide services under Wisconsin Shares and may modify an individual child care provider’s payment rate in the following manner on the basis of the child care provider’s quality rating under the Young Star system: a provider who receives a one-star rating may be denied payment; a provider who receives a two-star rating may have the maximum payment rate reduced by up to 5 percent; a provider who receives a three-star rating may receive up to the maximum payment rate; a provider who receives a four-star rating may have the maximum payment rate increased by up to 15 percent; and a provider who receives a five-star rating may have the maximum payment rate increased by up to 30 percent.

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

1           **SECTION 1.** 20.005 (3) (schedule) of the statutes: at the appropriate place, insert  
2           the following amounts for the purposes indicated:

**2021-22           2022-23**

3           **20.437 Children and families, department of**

4           (2)    ECONOMIC SUPPORT

5           (c)    Child care quality improvement

6           program	GPR	A	53,016,400	53,016,400
---------------------	-----	---	------------	------------

7           **20.445 Workforce development, department of**

8           (1)    WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

				<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>
1	(bp)	Green jobs training program;			
2		grants	GPR C	500,000	500,000
3	(bq)	Pandemic workforce training			
4		program; grants	GPR C	10,000,000	-0-
5	(bv)	Health care recruitment initia-			
6		tive	GPR B	200,000	-0-
7	(bw)	Pandemic recovery grants	GPR C	8,000,000	-0-
8	(cm)	Worker connection program	GPR C	2,226,700	7,483,000

9           **SECTION 2.** 20.437 (2) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

10           20.437 (2) (c) *Child care quality improvement program.* The amounts in the  
11 schedule for the program under s. 49.133.

12           **SECTION 3.** 20.445 (1) (bm) of the statutes is amended to read:

13           20.445 (1) (bm) *Workforce training; administration.* Biennially, the amounts  
14 in the schedule for the administration of the local youth apprenticeship grant  
15 program under s. 106.13 (3m), the youth summer jobs program under s. 106.18, the  
16 employment transit assistance grant program under s. 106.26, the workforce  
17 training ~~program~~ programs under s. 106.27, the teacher development program  
18 grants under s. 106.272, the career and technical education incentive grant program  
19 under s. 106.273, the technical education equipment grant program under s.  
20 106.275, and the apprentice programs under subch. I of ch. 106.

21           **SECTION 4.** 20.445 (1) (bp) of the statutes is created to read:

1           20.445 (1) (bp) *Green jobs training program; grants.* As a continuing  
2 appropriation, the amounts in the schedule for green jobs training program grants  
3 under s. 106.27 (1p).

4           **SECTION 5.** 20.445 (1) (bq) of the statutes is created to read:

5           20.445 (1) (bq) *Pandemic workforce training program; grants.* As a continuing  
6 appropriation, the amounts in the schedule for pandemic workforce training  
7 program grants under s. 106.27 (1q).

8           **SECTION 6.** 20.445 (1) (bv) of the statutes is created to read:

9           20.445 (1) (bv) *Health care recruitment initiative.* Biennially, the amounts in  
10 the schedule for the health care recruitment initiative under s. 106.28.

11          **SECTION 7.** 20.445 (1) (bw) of the statutes is created to read:

12          20.445 (1) (bw) *Pandemic recovery grants.* As a continuing appropriation, the  
13 amounts in the schedule for pandemic recovery grants under s. 106.29.

14          **SECTION 8.** 20.445 (1) (cm) of the statutes is created to read:

15          20.445 (1) (cm) *Worker connection program.* As a continuing appropriation, the  
16 amounts in the schedule for worker connection program administration, grants, and  
17 contracts under s. 106.274.

18          **SECTION 9.** 49.133 of the statutes is created to read:

19          **49.133 Child care quality improvement program.** (1) The department  
20 may establish a program under which it may, from the appropriation under s. 20.437  
21 (2) (c) and under s. 49.175 (1) (qm), make monthly payments and monthly per-child  
22 payments to child care providers certified under s. 48.651, child care centers licensed  
23 under s. 48.65, and child care programs established or contracted for by a school  
24 board under s. 120.13 (14). Of the amounts from the appropriation under s. 20.437  
25 (2) (c), the department may award 10 percent to child care providers, child care

1 centers, and child care programs located in child care deserts, as defined by the  
2 department.

3 (2) The department may promulgate rules to implement the program under  
4 this section, including establishing eligibility requirements and payment amounts  
5 and setting requirements for how recipients may use the payments.

6 **SECTION 10.** 49.155 (6) (e) of the statutes is repealed.

7 **SECTION 11.** 49.175 (1) (qm) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 49.175 (1) (qm) *Quality care for quality kids.* For the child care quality  
9 improvement activities specified in ss. 49.133, 49.155 (1g), and 49.257, ~~\$16,532,900~~  
10 \$33,847,900 in fiscal year ~~2019-20~~ 2021-22 and ~~\$16,683,700~~ \$34,484,700 in fiscal  
11 year ~~2020-21~~ 2022-23.

12 **SECTION 12.** 106.27 (1p) of the statutes is created to read:

13 106.27 (1p) GREEN JOBS TRAINING PROGRAM. (a) In this subsection, “green jobs”  
14 means jobs that produce goods or provide services that benefit the environment or  
15 conserve natural resources.

16 (b) From the appropriation under s. 20.445 (1) (bp), the department shall award  
17 grants to public or private organizations for the development and implementation  
18 of green jobs training programs. As a condition of receiving a grant under this  
19 subsection, the department may require a public or private organization to provide  
20 matching funds at a percentage to be determined by the department.

21 **SECTION 13.** 106.27 (1q) of the statutes is created to read:

22 106.27 (1q) PANDEMIC WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAM. From the appropriation  
23 under s. 20.445 (1) (bq), the department shall award grants to public or private  
24 organizations for the development and implementation of pandemic workforce  
25 training programs that emphasize training, skill development, and economic

1 recovery for individuals and businesses. The grants may be used for virtual and  
2 in-person job training, employment navigators or coaches, skill assessment,  
3 transportation, soft skill development, career or talent search services, and other  
4 programs to return employees to the labor market. As a condition of receiving a grant  
5 under this subsection, the department may require a public or private organization  
6 to provide matching funds at a percentage to be determined by the department.

7 **SECTION 14.** 106.27 (2g) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

8 106.27 **(2g)** (a) 1. Promulgate rules prescribing procedures and criteria for  
9 awarding grants under ~~sub subs. (1), (1p), and (1q)~~ and the information with respect  
10 to those grants that must be contained in the reports required under subd. 3.

11 **SECTION 15.** 106.27 (2g) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

12 106.27 **(2g)** (a) 2. Receive and review applications for grants under subs. (1),  
13 (1g), ~~and (1j) (am), (1p), and (1q)~~ and prescribe the form, nature, and extent of the  
14 information that must be contained in an application for a grant under sub. (1), (1g),  
15 ~~or (1j) (am), (1p) or (1q).~~

16 **SECTION 16.** 106.27 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 106.27 **(3)** ANNUAL REPORT. Annually, by December 31, the department shall  
18 submit a report to the governor and the cochairpersons of the joint committee on  
19 finance providing an account of the department's activities and expenditures under  
20 this section during the preceding fiscal year and detailing the amounts allocated to  
21 and expended for each of the programs, grants, and services specified in s. 20.445 (1)  
22 (b) ~~and, (bm), (bp), and (bq)~~ for that fiscal year. The report shall include information  
23 on the number of unemployed and underemployed workers and incumbent  
24 employees who participate in training programs under sub. (1) ~~or, (1j), (1p), or (1q);~~  
25 the number of unemployed workers who obtain gainful employment, underemployed

1 workers who obtain new employment, and incumbent employees who receive  
2 increased compensation after participating in such a training program; and the  
3 wages earned by those workers and employees both before and after participating  
4 in such a training program. The report shall also include information on the extent  
5 to which waiting lists for enrollment in courses and programs provided by technical  
6 colleges in high-demand fields are reduced as a result of grants under sub. (1g) (a),  
7 on the number of students who participate in certification or training programs  
8 under sub. (1) (a) or (e) or (1g) (b), on the building modifications funded under sub.  
9 (1) (f) and the effect of those building modifications on the school districts' technical  
10 education programs, and on the number of persons with disabilities who participate  
11 in employment enhancement activities under sub. (1g) (c). In addition, the report  
12 shall provide information on the number of student interns who are placed with  
13 employers as a result of the coordination activities conducted under sub. (1r) or the  
14 grants awarded under sub. (1) (d).

15 **SECTION 17.** 106.274 of the statutes is created to read:

16 **106.274 Worker connection program. (1) WORKER CONNECTION PROGRAM.**

17 The department shall, from the appropriation under 20.445 (1) (cm), establish and  
18 administer a worker connection program that helps participants prepare for and  
19 enter jobs in high-growth employment sectors by pairing participants with  
20 achievement coaches who guide participants through the workforce system and  
21 partner with employers in high-growth employment sectors.

22 **(2) IMPLEMENTATION.** The department shall promulgate rules to administer this  
23 section.

24 **SECTION 18.** 106.28 of the statutes is created to read:



1           **106.28 Health care recruitment initiative. (1)** In this section, “nurse aide”  
2 has the meaning given in s. 146.40 (1) (d).

3           **(2)** The department shall, from the appropriation under s. 20.445 (1) (bv) and  
4 in coordination with local workforce development boards established under 29 USC  
5 3122, do all of the following:

6           (a) Undertake a statewide recruitment initiative to promote and connect  
7 individuals with instructional programs for nurse aides approved by the department  
8 of health services under s. 146.40 and nurse aide employment opportunities and to  
9 promote other health care provider employment opportunities.

10           (b) Create a free, 4-hour course that individuals may take to explore career  
11 opportunities within the field of human services or health care delivery.

12           **SECTION 19.** 106.29 of the statutes is created to read:

13           **106.29 Pandemic recovery grants. (1)** In this section, “pandemic” means  
14 the 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic.

15           **(2)** The department shall, from the appropriation under s. 20.445 (1) (bw),  
16 establish and operate a program to provide grants to local workforce development  
17 boards established under 29 USC 3122 to fund pandemic recovery efforts. The  
18 grants shall emphasize training, skill development, and economic recovery for  
19 individuals and businesses. The grants may be used for virtual and in-person job  
20 training, employment navigators or coaches, skill assessment, transportation, soft  
21 skill development, career or talent search services, and other programs to return  
22 employees to the labor market.

23           **SECTION 20. Nonstatutory provisions.**

24           (1) CHILD CARE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM. Using the procedure under s.  
25 227.24, the department of children and families may promulgate the rules

1 authorized under s. 49.133 (2) as emergency rules. Notwithstanding s. 227.24 (1) (a)  
2 and (3), the department of children and families is not required to provide evidence  
3 that promulgating a rule under this subsection as an emergency rule is necessary for  
4 the preservation of the public peace, health, safety, or welfare and is not required to  
5 provide a finding of emergency for a rule promulgated under this subsection.

6 (2) **WORKER CONNECTION PILOT PROGRAM.** The authorized FTE positions for the  
7 department of workforce development are increased by 25.0 GPR 2-year project  
8 positions in the 2021-22 fiscal year, to be funded from the appropriation under s.  
9 20.445 (1) (cm), for the purpose of administering the worker connection pilot program  
10 for the period beginning on July 1, 2021, and ending on June 30, 2024. The  
11 authorized FTE positions for the department of workforce development are  
12 increased by 23.0 GPR 2-year project positions in the 2022-23 fiscal year, to be  
13 funded from the appropriation under s. 20.445 (1) (cm), for the purpose of  
14 administering the worker connection pilot program for the period beginning July 1,  
15 2022, and ending June 30, 2025.

16 **SECTION 21. Effective date.**

17 (1) This act takes effect on the day after publication, or on the 2nd day after  
18 publication of the 2021 biennial budget act, whichever is later.

19 (END)