



State of Wisconsin
2025 - 2026 LEGISLATURE

LRB-1200/P2

MDE:cdc

DOA:.....Bork, BB0235 - Specialized congregate care

FOR 2025-2027 BUDGET -- NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

AN ACT ...; relating to: the budget.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

CHILDREN

Specialized congregate care payments

This bill grants DCF the authority to expend funds to provide payments for specialized services to children with high acuity needs in congregate care facilities. "Congregate care facilities" means group homes, shelter care facilities, and residential care centers for children and youth.

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

SECTION 1. 20.437 (1) (dd) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.437 (1) (dd) *State out-of-home care, adoption services, ~~and~~ subsidized guardianships, and kinship care.* The amounts in the schedule for foster care, institutional child care, and subsidized adoptions under ss. 48.48 (12) and 48.52, for the cost of care for children under s. 49.19 (10) (d), for the cost of placements of children 18 years of age or over in residential care centers for children and youth under voluntary agreements under s. 48.366 (3) or under orders that terminate as provided in s. 48.355 (4) (b) 4., 48.357 (6) (a) 4., or 48.365 (5) (b) 4., for the cost of the foster care monitoring system, for the cost of reimbursing ~~counties~~ county departments under s. 46.215, 46.22, or 46.23 for subsidized guardianship payments under s. 48.623 (3) (a), for the cost of specialized services to children with high

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acuity needs in congregate care facilities under s. 48.48 (8x), for the cost of services to children with special needs who are under the guardianship of the department to prepare those children for adoption, and for the cost of postadoption services to children with special needs, for kinship care payments under s. 48.57 (3m) made on behalf of a juvenile who meets the criteria specified in s. 938.12 or is at risk of meeting that criteria, for assessments to determine eligibility for those payments, and for kinship care payments made on behalf of a juvenile who meets the criteria specified in s. 938.12 or is at risk of meeting that criteria under an agreement with a governing body of an Indian tribe under s. 48.57 (3t) for the administration of the kinship care programs within the boundaries of that tribe.

****NOTE: This SECTION involves a change in an appropriation that must be reflected in the revised schedule in s. 20.005, stats.

****NOTE: This is reconciled s. 20.437 (1) (dd). This SECTION has been affected by drafts with the following LRB numbers: -1200/P1 and -1199/P3.

SECTION 2. 20.437 (1) (pd) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.437 (1) (pd) *Federal aid; state out-of-home care, adoption services, and subsidized guardianships.* All federal moneys received for meeting the costs of providing foster care, institutional child care, and subsidized adoptions under ss. 48.48 (12) and 48.52, the cost of care for children under s. 49.19 (10) (d), the cost of placements of children 18 years of age or over in residential care centers for children and youth under voluntary agreements under s. 48.366 (3) or under orders that terminate as provided in s. 48.355 (4) (b) 4., 48.357 (6) (a) 4., or 48.365 (5) (b) 4., the cost of reimbursing ~~counties~~ county departments under s. 46.215, 46.22, or 46.23 and Indian tribes for subsidized guardianship payments under s. 48.623 (3) (a), the cost of specialized services to children with high acuity needs in congregate care facilities under s. 48.48 (8x), the cost of services to children with special needs who

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are under the guardianship of the department to prepare those children for adoption, and the cost of postadoption services to children with special needs, and for kinship care payments under s. 48.57 (3m) made on behalf of a juvenile who meets the criteria specified in s. 938.12 or is at risk of meeting that criteria, for assessments to determine eligibility for those payments, and for kinship care payments made on behalf of a juvenile who meets the criteria specified in s. 938.12 or is at risk of meeting that criteria under an agreement with a governing body of an Indian tribe under s. 48.57 (3t) for the administration of the kinship care programs within the boundaries of that tribe. Disbursements for foster care under s. 49.32 (2) and for the purposes described under s. 48.627 may be made from this appropriation.

****NOTE: This is reconciled s. 20.437 (1) (pd). This SECTION has been affected by drafts with the following LRB numbers: -1200/P1 and -1199/P3.

SECTION 3. 48.48 (8x) of the statutes is created to read:

48.48 (**8x**) To pay for specialized services to children with high acuity needs in congregate care facilities, as defined under s. 48.685 (1) (ao), from the appropriations under s. 20.437 (1) (dd) and (pd).

(END)