AN ACT ***to amend*** 48.42 (1m) (c) of the statutes; **relating to:** prohibiting visitation prior to termination of parental rights.

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

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PREFATORY NOTE: This bill draft was prepared for the joint legislative council's special committee on adoption and termination of parental rights (TPR) law.

Under current law, a court is permitted to prohibit a respondent in a TPR proceeding from visiting or contacting the child who is the subject of the petition if the prohibition would be in the best interests of the child.

This draft amends current law to provide that a court may also prohibit a respondent from visiting or contacting such a child if the child is subject to a voluntary agreement for placement of the child in a foster home, treatment foster home, or group home under s. 48.63 (1), or if the child is subject to a guardianship order under ch. 880 of the statutes. The purpose of this provision is to provide stability and predictability of placement for the child during the pendency of a TPR proceeding.

SECTION 1. 48.42 (1m) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

48.42 **(1m)** (c) Notwithstanding any other order under s. 48.355 (3), the court, subject to par. (e), may grant an injunction prohibiting the respondent from visiting or contacting the child if the court determines that <u>a voluntary agreement for placement of the child has been entered into under s. 48.63 (1), the child is subject to a guardianship order under ch. 880, or</u> the prohibition would <u>otherwise</u> be in the best interests of the child. An injunction under this subsection is effective according to its terms but may not remain in effect beyond the date the court dismisses the petition for termination of parental rights under s. 48.427 (2) or issues an order terminating parental rights under s. 48.427 (3).

(END)