

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 49.343 (2) (b) 1m. and 5m. of the statutes; **relating to:** factors the
2 department of children and families must consider in reviewing proposed child
3 welfare rates.

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

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PREFATORY NOTE: This draft was prepared for the Joint Legislative Council's Special Committee on Child Welfare Provider Rate Implementation.

2009 Wisconsin Act 28, the Biennial Budget Act, requires residential care centers (RCCs) for children and youth and group homes to annually submit to the Department of Children and Families (DCF) the per client rate that it proposes to charge for services provided in the next year. Also, a child welfare agency must submit to DCF the proposed per client administrative rate that it proposes to charge for foster care services provided in the next year. DCF must review the proposed rate and audit the RCC, group home, or child welfare agency to determine whether the proposed rate is appropriate to the level of services to be provided, the qualifications of the RCC, group home, or child welfare agency to provide those services, and the reasonable and necessary costs of providing those services. Current law sets forth factors DCF must consider in reviewing a proposed rate.

The draft adds factors DCF must consider in reviewing a proposed rate. First, DCF must consider changes in the consumer price index for all urban consumers, U.S. city average, for the medical care group. Second, DCF must consider whether the agency is accredited by a national accrediting body.

4 **SECTION 1.** 49.343 (2) (b) 1m. and 5m. of the statutes are created to read:
5 49.343 (2) (b) 1m. Changes in the consumer price index for all urban consumers, U.S.
6 city average, for the medical care group, as determined by the U.S. department of labor, for
7 the 12 months ending on June 30 of the year in which the proposed rate is submitted.

