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03/26/2009

1       **AN ACT** *to create* 48.67 (4) of the statutes; **relating to:** training for foster parents.

*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 Special Committee on Strengthening Wisconsin Families.

This bill draft requires that all foster parents and treatment foster parents complete training in the care and support needs of foster care children. The training must include training in parenting skills; teaching and encouraging independent living skills; issues that may confront foster parents or treatment foster parents; child abuse and neglect prevention; and the proper use of foster care payments. The Department of Children and Families is required to monitor compliance with the training requirements and promulgate rules prescribing the training.

2       **SECTION 1.** 48.67 (4) of the statutes is created to read:

3       48.67 (4) That all foster parents and treatment foster parents successfully complete  
4       training in the care and support needs of children who are placed in foster care or treatment  
5       foster care. The department shall monitor compliance with this subsection and shall  
6       promulgate rules prescribing the training that is required under this subsection, including  
7       training in all of the following:

8           (a) Parenting skills, including child development; infant care, if appropriate; the effects  
9       of trauma on children; and recognizing issues such as drug use or addiction or attachment  
10      disorder.

11          (b) For foster parents or treatment foster parents caring for children age 11 or older,  
12      teaching and encouraging independent living skills in children who are placed in foster care  
13      or treatment foster care, including budgeting, health and nutrition, and other skills to promote  
14      the child's long-term economic independence and well-being.

(c) Issues that may confront foster parents or treatment foster parents, in general, and that may confront foster parents or treatment foster parents of special needs children.

3 (d) Child abuse and neglect prevention.

4 (e) Proper use of foster care payments.

5 (END)