

JKR:jal:wu;

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1 **AN ACT** *to renumber and amend* 48.67 (4); and *to create* 48.67 (4) (a) 1. to 7. and
2 48.67 (4) (b) to (c) 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.

2009 Wisconsin Act 28, the biennial budget act, requires that all foster parents complete training in the care and support needs of foster care children. The Department of Children and Families (DCF) is required to monitor compliance with the training requirements and promulgate rules prescribing the training.

This bill draft requires that the training be completed before the first child is placed with a foster parent and on an ongoing basis. The training must be available to kinship care relatives. In addition, the training must include training in parenting skills; teaching and encouraging independent living skills; issues that may confront foster parents; child abuse and neglect prevention; the proper use of foster care payments; the availability of resources for foster parents in the local community; and other topics, as determined by DCF.

3 **SECTION 1.** 48.67 (4) of the statutes, as created by 2009 Wisconsin Act 28, is
4 renumbered 48.67 (4) (a) and amended to read:

5 48.67 (4) (a) That all foster parents successfully complete training in the care and
6 support needs of children who are placed in foster care that has been approved by the
7 department. The training shall be completed on an ongoing basis, as determined by the
8 department. The department shall promulgate rules prescribing the training that is required
9 under this subsection and shall monitor compliance with this subsection according to those
10 rules. The training shall include all of the following:

11 **SECTION 2.** 48.67 (4) (a) 1. to 7. of the statutes are created to read:

1 48.67 (4) (a) 1. Parenting skills, including child development; infant care, if
2 appropriate; the effects of trauma on children; communicating with children in an
3 age-appropriate manner; and recognizing issues such as drug use or addiction or attachment
4 disorder.

5 2. For foster parents caring for children age 11 or older, teaching and encouraging
6 independent living skills in children who are placed in foster care, including budgeting, health
7 and nutrition, and other skills to promote the child's long-term economic independence and
8 well-being.

9 3. Issues that may confront foster parents, in general, and that may confront foster
10 parents of special needs children.

11 4. Child abuse and neglect prevention.

12 5. Proper use of foster care payments.

13 6. Availability of resources for foster parents in the local community.

14 7. Other topics, as determined by the department.

15 **SECTION 3.** 48.67 (4) (b) to (c) of the statutes are created to read:

16 48.67 (4) (b) The training under par. (a) shall be available to a kinship care relative, as
17 defined in s. 48.40 (1m), upon request of the kinship care relative.

18 (c) For a foster parent receiving an initial license, the training under par. (a) shall be
19 completed before the first child is placed with the foster parent.

20 **SECTION 4. Effective date.** This act takes effect on January 1, 2011, or on the day after
21 publication, whichever is later.

22 **SECTION 5. Initial applicability.** The treatment of section 48.67 (4) (c) of the statutes
23 first applies to foster parents receiving an initial license on the effective date of this subsection.

24 (END)