

- 1 **AN ACT** *to repeal and recreate* 251.05 (3) of the statutes; **relating to:** duties of local
2 health departments.

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

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PREFATORY NOTE: This bill was prepared for the Joint Legislative Council's Special Committee on Health Care Access

The bill modifies the current statute that sets forth duties of a local health department. Under current law, a local health department is required to regularly and systematically collect, assemble, analyze, and make available information on the health of the community. The bill replaces this language with a requirement that a local health department conduct and disseminate assessments focused on population health status and public health issues facing the community, including two specified items. In addition, the bill modifies the statute that requires a local health department to develop public health policies and procedures for the community to instead require that the department develop public health policies and plans that include a comprehensive planning process resulting in a community health improvement plan that is both implemented and evaluated and includes actions to implement specified services and functions.

In addition, the bill deletes the requirement for local health departments to involve key policymakers and the general public in determining and developing a community health improvement plan and instead requires that the local health departments engage the public health system and the community in identifying and addressing health problems through an ongoing, collaborative process. The bill also adds the requirement that local health departments assess health care capacity and access to health care services, identify gaps, and implement strategies to improve access to health care services.

The bill repeals and recreates **s. 251.05 (3), Stats.**, which **currently states** as follows:

251.05 (3) A local health department shall:

- (a) Regularly and systematically collect, assemble, analyze and make available information on the health of the community, including statistics

on health status, community health needs and epidemiologic and other studies of health problems.

(b) Develop public health policies and procedures for the community.

(c) Involve key policymakers and the general public in determining and developing a community health improvement plan that includes actions to implement the services and functions specified under s. 250.03 (1) (L).

(d) Submit data, as requested, to the local public health data system established by the department.

(e) Act as agent of the department, if designated by the secretary under s. 250.042 (1).

1 **SECTION 1.** 251.05 (3) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

2 251.05 (3) A local health department shall do all of the following:

3 (a) Conduct and disseminate assessments focused on population health status and
4 public health issues facing the community, including all of the following:

5 1. An analysis of public health data to identify health problems, environmental public
6 health hazards, and social and economic risks that affect the public's health.

7 2. Use of the analysis to develop recommendations regarding public health policy,
8 processes, programs, or interventions.

9 (b) Develop public health policies and plans that include a comprehensive planning
10 process resulting in a community health improvement plan that is both implemented and
11 evaluated and includes actions to implement the services and functions specified under s.
12 250.03 (1) (L).

13 (c) Engage the public health system and the community in identifying and addressing
14 health problems through an ongoing, collaborative process.

15 (d) Assess health care capacity and access to health care services, identify gaps, and
16 implement strategies to improve access to health care services.

1 (e) Submit data, as requested, to the local public health data system established by the
2 department.

3 (f) Act as agent of the department, if designated by the secretary under s. 250.042 (1).

5 (END)