MORT: Cultural Sensitivity Training

REL:ty 12/10/2010

WLC: 0045/1

AN ACT *to create* 36.25 (49) and 38.04 (32) of the statutes; **relating to:** cultural sensitivity training for medical and nursing students in the University of Wisconsin–System and certain technical college students.

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 Infant Mortality.

This draft requires students enrolled in the University of Wisconsin–Madison School of Medicine and Public Health or in any college or school of nursing in the University of Wisconsin System to receive training in cultural sensitivity to increase the students' cultural sensitivity and to improve the students' ability to communicate with, and effectively deliver health care to, patients from different racial and ethnic backgrounds.

The draft also requires that students enrolled in health care occupation programs in the Wisconsin Technical College System to receive training in cultural sensitivity.

SECTION 1. 36.25 (49) of the statutes is created to read:

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36.25 (49) Cultural sensitivity training. The board shall ensure that students enrolled in the University of Wisconsin–Madison School of Medicine and Public Health or in any college or school of nursing in the system receive training in cultural sensitivity to increase the students' cultural awareness and to improve the students' ability to communicate with, and effectively deliver health care to, patients from different racial and ethnic backgrounds.

Note: Requires students enrolled in the University of Wisconsin–Madison School of Medicine and Public Health or in any college or school of nursing in the University of Wisconsin System to receive training in cultural sensitivity.

SECTION 2. 38.04 (32) of the statutes is created to read:

38.04 (32) CULTURAL SENSITIVITY TRAINING. The board shall ensure that technical college students enrolled in health care occupation programs receive training in cultural sensitivity to increase the students' cultural awareness and to improve the students' ability to communicate with, and effectively deliver health care to patients from different racial and ethnic backgrounds.

Note: Requires that students enrolled in technical college health care occupation programs receive training in cultural sensitivity.

COMMENT: This draft does not direct private colleges such as the Medical College of Wisconsin or Marquette University to require that students receive training in cultural sensitivity because the state does not have the authority to direct private institutions to offer or require specific programs.

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