

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 253.17 of the statutes; **relating to:** a report on information related to
2 infant morbidity and mortality.

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.

The draft directs the Department of Health Services (DHS) to annually prepare a report relating to infant mortality and birth outcomes in this state. The report must include data related to births and birth outcomes in this state in the previous calendar year, and analysis of that data.

The draft directs DHS to collaborate with local health departments, tribes and other interested parties to determine the specific data and data analysis to be included in the report and the procedures by which the data will be collected and reported to the department. The draft states that the department must ensure that the report, to the greatest extent possible, includes data and analysis that are necessary and useful for the development and evaluation of programs that address disparities in birth outcomes among racial and ethnic groups. The department must periodically consult with interested parties to review and update the data and analysis required in the report as needed to ensure that this goal is met.

The draft provides that the report must include at least the following information:

- The number and rate of infant deaths in each county, by race or ethnicity.
- The causes of infant deaths in each county.
- The number and rate of very premature (less than 32 weeks gestation) births in each county by race or ethnicity.
- The number of low birth weight (between 1,500 and 2,500 grams) infants born in each county and the rate of those births in each county by race or ethnicity.

- The number of very low birth weight (less than 1,500 grams) infants born in each county and the rate of those births in each county by race or ethnicity.

The draft requires DHS, in collaboration with the groups identified above, to consider including in the report data related to the type of prenatal care, if any, received by the mother of each infant whose birth data is included in the report.

Beginning June 30, 2013, and on every June 30 after that, the department must do all of the following:

1. Submit the report to the appropriate standing committees of the legislature.
2. Post the report on its Internet website.
3. Post, on its Internet website, the raw data collected in the previous calendar year for purposes of the annual report. The data must be presented in a manner that does not disclose or enable the identification of any individual infant, mother, or birth attendant.

The draft directs DHS to explore whether any of the costs of collecting the data and creating the report may be funded by the medical assistance program.

1 **SECTION 1.** 253.17 of the statutes is created to read:

2 **253.17 Title. (1) DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

- 3 (a) “Infant” means a child from birth to 12 months of age.
- 4 (b) “Low birth weight” means a birth weight between 1,500 and 2,500 grams.
- 5 (c) “Very low birth weight” means a birth weight less than 1,500 grams.
- 6 (d) “Very premature birth” means less than 32 weeks gestation.

7 **(2)** (a) The department shall annually prepare a report relating to infant mortality and
 8 birth outcomes in this state. The report shall include data related to births and birth outcomes
 9 in this state in the previous calendar year, and analysis of that data. The department shall
 10 collaborate with local health departments, tribes and other interested parties to determine the
 11 data and data analysis to be included in the report and the procedures by which the data will
 12 be collected and reported to the department. The department shall ensure that the report, to

1 the greatest extent possible, includes data and analysis that are necessary and useful for the
2 development and evaluation of programs to address disparities in birth outcomes among racial
3 and ethnic groups in this state. The department shall periodically consult with interested
4 parties to review and update the data and analysis required in the report as needed to ensure
5 that this goal continues to be met.

6 (b) The report under sub. (2) shall include, at a minimum the following information:

7 1. The number and rate of infant deaths in each county.

8 2. The causes of infant deaths in each county.

9 3. The number and rate of very premature births in each county.

10 4. The number of low birth weight infants born in each county and of the rate of those
11 births in each county.

12 5. The number of very low birth weight infants born in each county and the rate of those
13 births in each county.

14 6. The race or ethnicity of the infant provided on the birth certificate for births identified
15 in subd. 1., 3., 4., or 5.

16 (c) The department, in collaboration with the groups identified in par. (a), shall consider
17 including in the report data related to the type of prenatal care, if any, received by the mother
18 of each infant whose birth data is included in the report.

19 (d) Beginning June 30, 2013, and on every June 30 after that, the department shall do
20 all of the following:

21 1. Submit the report to the appropriate standing committees of the legislature.

22 2. Post the report on its Internet website.

1 3. Post, on its Internet website, the raw data collected in the previous calendar year for
2 purposes of the annual report. The data shall be presented in a manner that does not disclose
3 or enable the identification of any individual infant, mother, or birth attendant.

4 **(3)** The department shall explore whether any of the costs of collecting the data and
5 creating the report under sub. (2) may be funded by the medical assistance program.

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(END)