



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON  
INFANT MORTALITY

[2011 SENATE BILL 532 AND 2011 ASSEMBLY BILL 693]

March 19, 2012

RL 2011-12



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# Special Committee on Infant Mortality

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# **PART I**

## **KEY PROVISIONS OF COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Joint Legislative Council recommends the following for introduction in the 2011-12 Session of the Legislature.

### **2011 Senate Bill 532 and 2011 Assembly Bill 693, Relating to Evidence-Based Home Visitation Program Services for Persons who are at Risk of Poor Birth Outcomes or of Abusing or Neglecting Their Children; Designating Race and Ethnicity on Birth Certificates; Requiring Informed Consent for Performance of Certain Elective Procedures Prior to the Full Gestational Term of a Fetus; and Granting Rule-Making Authority**

2011 Senate Bill 532 and 2011 Assembly Bill 693 do the following:

- Specify that home visiting programs undertaken by the Department of Children and Families (DCF) must be evidence-based.
- Require DCF to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Human Services (DHS) that provides for collaboration between the two agencies in carrying out home visiting programs.
- Specify that a birth certificate must include the race or ethnicity of the infant, as reported by the infant's mother.
- Prohibit a physician or nurse-midwife from performing an elective procedure intended to induce labor in a woman prior to 39 weeks gestation unless the physician, or nurse midwife has first obtained the informed consent of the woman.



## **PART II**

### **COMMITTEE ACTIVITY**

#### **Assignment**

The Joint Legislative Council established the Special Committee on Infant Mortality and appointed the chairperson by a May 7, 2010 mail ballot. The committee was directed to study: (a) the causes of infant mortality in Wisconsin; (b) evaluation of efforts that have been undertaken to address this problem in both the private and public sectors; (c) coordination of public health and Medicaid funding; (d) evaluation of infant mortality prevention programs that have been successful in other cities and states; (e) evaluation of the public health costs of not addressing the causes of infant mortality in Wisconsin; and (f) developing a strategic proposal, including any necessary legislation, to address infant mortality in Wisconsin, particularly disparities in infant mortality rates in different geographic areas of the state.

Membership of the Special Committee was appointed by June 30 and October 20, 2010 mail ballots. The final committee membership consisted of one Senator, three Representatives, and 15 public members. A list of committee members is included as **Appendix 3** to this report.

#### **Summary of Meetings**

The Special Committee held five meetings on the following dates:

September 8, 2010  
September 22, 2010  
October 13, 2010  
November 16, 2010  
December 16, 2010

At the September 8, 2010 meeting, the Special Committee heard invited testimony from several speakers.

***Dr. Phil Farrell, M.D., Ph.D., Professor, Pediatrics and Population Health Sciences, UW School of Medicine and Public Health and Co-Chair of the Steering Committee for the Wisconsin Partnership Program for the Healthy Birth Outcome Initiative***

Dr. Farrell made a presentation to the committee on African American infant mortality in Wisconsin. He discussed the historical disparity in birth outcomes among racial groups in Wisconsin and described the genesis of the Wisconsin Partnership Program and its Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families (LIHF), which is being undertaken in Milwaukee, Beloit, Racine, and Kenosha.

Dr. Farrell said the goals of the LIHF program are: improved health status of African American women over their lifespan; improved African American infant survival and health; and elimination of racial and ethnic disparities in birth outcomes. He explained the rationale behind the lifecourse concept, noting that studies have shown a strong correlation between birth outcomes and the level of stress a woman experiences during the course of her life.

Dr. Farrell also described the social and economic costs of premature and low birthweight babies.

***Dr. Patricia McManus, Executive Director, Black Health Coalition of Wisconsin, Milwaukee***

Dr. McManus made a PowerPoint presentation to the committee on African American infant mortality in the City of Milwaukee.

Dr. McManus discussed the connection between African American citizenship status and health experiences from 1619 to 2006, and cited studies that show the relationship between maternal lifetime exposure to stressors, including interpersonal racism, and infant birth weight.

Dr. McManus described the Milwaukee Healthy Beginnings Project (MHBP) which has provided various services to pregnant women, infants, and their families in targeted populations in Milwaukee.

***Murray Katcher, M.D., Ph.D., Chief Medical Officer and Patrice Onheiber, MPA, Director, Disparities in Birth Outcomes***

Dr. Katcher and Ms. Onheiber discussed the biological, psychosocial, and environmental risk factors contributing to poor birth outcomes, as well as the protective factors that help counteract these risk factors.

They described a number of infant mortality reduction efforts DHS is currently involved in with DCF and other partners, focusing on ABC's for Healthy Families, Journey of a Lifetime, text4baby, home visiting, Centering Pregnancy, the Racism and Fatherhood Action Learning Collaborative, and the Medicaid Healthy Birth Outcomes Medical Home Pilot.

Dr. Katcher and Ms. Onheiber also made several recommendations to the committee.

***Kathleen Pritchard, Ph.D., President and CEO, Planning Council for Health and Human Services, Inc., Milwaukee***

Dr. Pritchard provided a PowerPoint presentation on the planning process and goals of the Milwaukee LIHF.

Dr. Pritchard urged the committee to take advantage of available resources including federal and private funding, and provided a number of recommendations to the committee.

***Dr. Gloria Sarto, M.D., Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology***

Dr. Sarto described the work of the Infant Mortality Collaborative, which is conducting a study to determine the reasons behind the recent reduction in the infant mortality rate in Dane County.

***Cynthia D. Ferré, Pregnancy and Infant Health Branch, Division of Reproductive Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia***

Ms. Ferré presented data on recent pre-term birth rates among racial and ethnic groups in the United States which show that, in general, pre-term births have been decreasing among whites but increasing among non-whites. She described federal initiatives to address racial and ethnic disparities in pre-term births and discussed the negative health effects of pre-term births such as lung disease, vision and hearing impairment, developmental delays, cerebral palsy, chronic disease, and detailed estimates of the financial costs of these conditions that are borne by taxpayers.

Ms. Ferré stressed that racial disparities result from many factors and many risks to healthy births cannot be adequately addressed through the health care system alone.

Chair Robson invited committee members to make suggestions for future committee meetings.

At the September 22, 2010 meeting, at Gateway Technical College, Racine, Wisconsin, the Special Committee heard invited testimony from several speakers.

***Racine Collaborative for Healthy Birth Outcomes: Carole M. Johnson, Ph.D., Director, Local and Regional Community Programs, The Johnson Foundation at Wingspread and Sharon Schulz, Executive Director of the Racine/Kenosha Community Action Agency, and Lena Cooksey, Secretary, PWNS-Racine/Kenosha Birthing Project***

Ms. Johnson made a presentation regarding the Greater Racine Collaborative for Healthy Birth Outcomes (“the Collaborative”) and the Racine LIHF project. Ms. Johnson discussed the history of the Collaborative, the role of the Johnson Foundation as the convening organization in partnership with the Racine/Kenosha Community Action Agency, the funding award from the Wisconsin Partnership Program and the \$10,000 Racine LIHF early implementation project grant awarded to the Professional Women’s Network Service (PWNS) for the Sister Friends component of Birthing Project USA.

Ms. Schultz described the operating principles and structure of the Collaborative.

Ms. Cooksey described the Sister Friends program that PWNS operates with assistance from an LIHF early implementation project grant.

Ms. Johnson concluded this presentation with a series of policy recommendations.

***Wheaton-Franciscan’s Fetal and Infant Mortality Review (FIMR) Project of Racine: Teresa S. Johnson, Ph.D., R.N., Associate Professor, Executive Committee Vice-Chair, UW-Milwaukee College of Nursing***

Dr. Johnson explained the history of the FIMR of Racine. Dr. Johnson noted that quantitative results of the Racine FIMR reviews include findings that primarily women in their 20’s, on Medicaid and living in the 53403 and 53404 zip codes had the highest frequency of fetal/perinatal losses.

***Pamela Smith, Program Coordinator, Kenosha LIHF Collaborative and Cindy Johnson, Health Officer for Kenosha County, Dottie-Kay Bowersox, Health Officer, Teri Hicks, Community Health Director, and Danielle Smith, Public Health Nurse Coordinator, City of Racine Health Department***

Danielle Smith explained the evolution of the Kenosha LIHF project, which has its roots in the delegation formed by the Black Health Coalition of Greater Kenosha, the Kenosha County Department of Health and United Way of Kenosha County. Ms. Soyntia West told the committee about her positive experiences as a participant in the Mom Baby Talk program.

Cindy Johnson, Health Officer for Kenosha County, emphasized the importance of data, group support settings, community involvement and state assistance in identifying private funding and partnerships for infant mortality efforts.

Ms. Bowersox stated that the high infant mortality rates in Racine are the byproduct of complex social problems, including racism and poverty, and noted that long term solutions to infant mortality will emerge as governments and society begin to address these injustices.

Ms. Hicks and Ms. Smith described the Racine Healthy Birth/Healthy Families program that was created in 2007 and allowed the City of Racine to develop a home visiting program to prevent adverse birth outcomes in the African American population who live in five zip codes.

The committee then held a public hearing.

At the October 13, 2010 meeting, at Beloit Memorial Hospital, Beloit, Wisconsin, the Special Committee heard testimony from invited speakers.

***John Schlitt and Beth Jacob, Pew Home Visiting Program, Pew Center on the States, Washington, D.C.***

Mr. Schlitt said there is compelling evidence that home visiting programs are effective in reducing infant mortality, premature birth and low birth weight and described the attributes of successful programs. He also presented data from various studies of home visiting programs.

Ms. Jacob explained that the federal government will be providing funding to states for home visiting programs, and states have to document the results of their programs to take advantage of the federal funds.

***Dr. Richard Perry, Beloit Community Health Systems; Angela Moore, Beloit Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families, and Marilyn Kilgore, Beloit African American Infant Mortality Coalition***

Ms. Kilgore provided a synopsis of the history of the Beloit African American Infant Mortality Coalition and described the African American Health Fairs that the coalition has sponsored.

Ms. Moore described the process by which the Beloit LIHF was formed.

***Karen Cain, Health Officer, Rock County Public Health Department***

Ms. Cain made a PowerPoint presentation which highlighted the increasing rates of infant mortality among African Americans in Beloit. She described Rock County resources available to address infant mortality and said the county needs African American and Hispanic nurses, since minorities are often uncomfortable when home visiting is conducted by white health care personnel.

***Dr. Leona VandeVusse, Marquette University College of Nursing, and Jacquelyn Tillett, Director, Aurora Sinai Medical Center***

Ms. VandeVusse discussed the history of midwifery, the scope of practice of nurse-midwives and the differences between certified nurse-midwives and lay midwives. She said that midwifery prenatal care contributes to excellent birth outcomes and the quality of care is very high.

Ms. Tillett addressed myths about midwifery and provided numerous statistics about the locations where midwives practice, the types of women they serve, and the outcomes of midwife-assisted pregnancies and births. She said nurse-midwife care is unique because it is individualized and women are active participants in their care. She described the Midwifery and Wellness Center at Aurora Sinai Medical Center, the Centering Pregnancy programs they sponsor at several high schools in Milwaukee, and future plans for the Center.

***Cindy Schlough, Director of Strategic Partnerships, Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality***

Ms. Schlough described the Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality (WCHQ), which is a voluntary consortium of organizations working to improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of healthcare in Wisconsin. She explained that the member organizations, which include health systems, medical groups, hospitals, and health plans, pay dues, while purchaser and strategic partners do not.

Ms. Schlough said WCHQ develops performance measures for health care services, guides the collection and analysis of data collected, publicly reports performance measure results and shares best practices of high performance organizations, enabling others to adopt successful models.

The committee then held a public hearing.

At the November 16, 2010 meeting, the Special Committee heard testimony from several invited speakers.

***Dr. Sheri Pattillo Johnson, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Center for the Advancement of Underserved Children, Medical College of Wisconsin***

Dr. Johnson gave a presentation regarding racism and birth outcomes. Dr. Johnson explained that structural racism, which tracks people by race into different socioeconomic opportunities, along with living in a society with a legacy of discrimination, create accumulated levels of stress at an individual, family, and community level that translate into different health outcomes.

Dr. Johnson also offered policy options to address the implicit bias of health care providers.

***Jason Helgerson, Administrator, Division of Health Care Access and Accountability, DHS***

Mr. Helgerson provided an overview of the BadgerCare Plus Healthy Birth Outcomes Initiative.

Mr. Helgerson explained that because the HMO performance in the six Southeast Wisconsin Counties was below or far below the state average and because the disparities in health outcomes are greatest in this part of the state, a request for proposals (RFP) for the BadgerCare Plus HMO contract that contained stricter requirements was issued in the fall of 2009 for Southeast Wisconsin. After a very competitive procurement process, separate contracts were awarded for four HMOs to provide services in the six Southeast counties. Mr. Helgerson stated that the contracts require: (1) a medical home pilot for high-risk pregnant women; (2) assessments of poor birth outcomes; (3) an MOU with prenatal care coordination (PNCC) providers in their service area; and (4) coordination with community-based agencies. He explained that the target population for the medical homes are women who are pregnant and on the high-risk registry, provider-identified as eligible for the registry, or under age 18 and who live in high-risk areas or Milwaukee, Racine, or Kenosha or have a chronic health condition.

Mr. Helgerson explained the specific elements of the medical home pilot contract and also explained the covered services and other steps taken to ensure quality care, including requiring that reimbursement for elective and non-medically indicated cesarean sections be the same as for vaginal delivery.

Mr. Helgerson concluded his presentation by stating that while more can be done to address disparities in birth outcomes, the initiatives DHS had undertaken will hopefully serve as successful models to be expanded across the state.

***Susan Uttech, Director, and Linda Hale, Family Health Section Chief, Bureau of Community Health Promotion, Division of Public Health, DHS***

Ms. Uttech summarized the programs the bureau administers that support infant mortality programming, including ABCs for Healthy Families and the Racine Healthy Births/Healthy Families program. She also provided an overview of the Title V Maternal and Child Health (MCH) block grant, and commented on the Illinois Cornerstone program.

Ms. Uttech explained that MCH block grant funding has not kept up with the services needed.

Ms. Hale then described a few of the programs funded by the MCH block grant.

***Ron Hermes, Deputy Administrator, Division of Safety and Permanence, DCF***

Mr. Hermes provided an overview of the primary home visiting programs supported with state or federal funds: Family Foundations, Empowering Families Milwaukee, and the Nurse Family Partnership in Milwaukee.

Mr. Hermes described the process of applying for home visiting funds from the federal government.

Ms. Matthias then provided an overview of Memo No. 1, *Recommendations for Legislation*.

The committee discussed the recommendations in Memo No. 1, as well as additions to the list of recommendations, and by consensus agreed on several proposals.

At the December 16, 2010 meeting, the Special Committee reviewed 12 bill drafts reflecting the committee's review and discussion of issues at previous meetings.

Chair Robson explained that if the committee wanted any modifications made to a draft, the staff would make those modifications and the revised draft would be sent to the members in January for their approval by a mail ballot.

After an extensive discussion, the committee approved four bill drafts and requested modifications to eight bill drafts. The committee also directed staff to prepare a draft regarding perinatal regionalization.

This was the final meeting of the Special Committee.

## **PART III**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS INTRODUCED BY THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

This part of the report provides background information on, and a description of, the bills as recommended by the Special Committee on Infant Mortality and introduced by the Joint Legislative Council.

#### **2011 Senate Bill 532 and 2011 Assembly Bill 693, Relating to Evidence-Based Home Visitation Program Services for Persons who are at Risk of Poor Birth Outcomes or of Abusing or Neglecting Their Children; Designating Race and Ethnicity on Birth Certificates; Requiring Informed Consent for Performance of Certain Elective Procedures Prior to the Full Gestational Term of a Fetus; and Granting Rule-Making Authority**

##### *Evidence-Based Home Visitation Services*

The Special Committee heard extensive testimony regarding the benefits achieved by current home visitation services programs, including the Racine Healthy Families program, Family Foundations, Empowering Families Milwaukee, and the Nurse Family Partnership in Milwaukee.

In the 2009-10 Legislative Session, the child abuse and neglect prevention program statute, s. 48.983, Stats., was amended to authorize DCF to administer home visitation program services under this authority. Subsequently, DCF applied for federal home visiting funds available through the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. DCF testified before the Special Committee about the needs assessment DCF was in the process of conducting in order to be eligible to receive the federal home visiting funds. DCF noted that of any federal funds received, 75% must be used to support programs that follow an evidence-based model. DCF testified that they work in cooperation with DHS, with the Department of Public Instruction and the Children's Trust Fund on this project.

The bills specify that home visitation services provided by a county, private agency, or Indian tribe to a person at risk of poor birth outcomes or of abusing or neglecting his or her child under a child abuse and neglect prevention grant from DCF must be evidence-based.

The bills also require DCF to enter into a MOU with DHS that provides for collaboration between these departments in carrying out home visitation program services.

##### *Designation of an Infant's Race on the Birth Certificate*

Under current law, an infant's race or ethnicity is not required to be collected or to appear on an infant's birth certificate. The committee heard testimony from numerous speakers regarding the importance of collection of data on birth outcomes in the development and evaluation of programs and strategies to address infant mortality and poor birth outcomes.

The bills specify that a birth certificate must include the race or ethnicity of the infant, as reported by the infant's mother.

The bills also require DHS to promulgate administrative rules to establish the designations of race and ethnicity to be used on birth certificates and procedures to be followed to ensure that the

designation recorded on a birth certificate is the designation that is directly reported by an infant's mother. The designations of race or ethnicity must be sufficiently detailed to enable data collection on births and birth outcomes among all significant racial and ethnic populations in the state and to assist in the development and evaluation of the efficacy of programs and policies designed to improve birth outcomes.

The committee heard testimony indicating that there has been a recent increase, nationwide, in the number of labors that are induced and caesarean sections performed under circumstances in which those procedures are not medically necessary. It was stated that some studies have shown that children born even a week or two prior to full gestational term may display cognitive and other effects years later.

Under current law, any physician who treats a patient must inform the patient about the availability of all alternate, viable medical modes of treatment, and about the benefits and risks of those treatments. A physician who violates this requirement is guilty of unprofessional conduct and is subject to discipline by the Medical Examining Board (MEB), which may warn or reprimand the physician, or limit, suspend, or revoke any license, certificate, or limited permit granted by the MEB to the physician. The statutes direct the MEB to promulgate rules implementing this requirement. Those rules are set forth as ch. Med 18, Wis. Adm. Code.

Under current law there is no requirement that a mother be specifically informed about possible negative effects to her infant of inducing labor or performing a caesarean section prior to full gestational term.

The bills prohibit a physician from performing an elective caesarean section or an elective procedure intended to induce labor in a woman prior to 39 weeks gestation unless the physician has first obtained the informed consent of the woman. The bills specify that a woman's consent is informed only if she receives timely information orally and in person from the attending provider regarding potential negative effects to the child of early delivery, including long-term learning and behavioral problems.

Under the bills, violations of the newly-created prohibition are subject to the same penalties that violations of the duty to provide information on alternate modes of treatment are subject under current law; i.e., the MEB may warn or reprimand the physician, or limit, suspend, or revoke any license, certificate, or limited permit granted by the board to the physician.

The bills direct the MEB to promulgate rules implementing the provisions of the newly-created prohibition and defining "elective" for purposes of the prohibition.

The bills also prohibit a nurse-midwife from performing an elective procedure intended to induce labor in a woman prior to 39 weeks gestation unless the nurse-midwife has first obtained the informed consent of the woman.

A nurse-midwife who is found to have violated this prohibition could be found to have engaged in misconduct or unprofessional conduct and be subject to penalties imposed by the Board of Nursing including a reprimand or limiting, suspending, revoking, or denying renewal of the nurse-midwife's license.

## **PART IV**

### **OTHER ACTION OF THE COMMITTEE**

At its December 16, 2010 meeting, the Special Committee reviewed and approved a letter to be sent on its behalf to Christopher Queram, President of the Wisconsin Collaborative on Health Care Quality (WCHQ). The WCHQ is a voluntary consortium of Wisconsin healthcare organizations, including health systems, medical groups, hospitals, and health plans. WCHQ develops and administers health care performance measures and reports the measurement results to the public. WCHQ members use the measurements to drive internal improvement efforts.

The letter, approved by the committee, requests the WCHQ to develop and implement performance measures that are tied to birth outcomes.

The letter is included as ***Appendix 5*** to this report.



## Appendix 1

### Committee and Joint Legislative Council Votes

The following bill drafts were recommended by the Special Committee on Infant Mortality to the Joint Legislative Council for introduction in the 2011-12 Session of the Legislature.

#### Special Committee Votes

The Special Committee voted to recommend the following 11 drafts to the Joint Legislative Council for introduction in the 2011-12 Session of the Legislature. The votes on the drafts are as follows:

- WLC: 0045/2, relating to cultural competency training for medical students and students enrolled in programs in a health care occupation in the University of Wisconsin-System and certain technical college students, passed by a vote of Ayes, 15 (Reps. Mason, Pasch, and Pope-Roberts; Sen. Wirch; and Public Members Eglash, Falkenberg, Jentsch, Lathen, Pattillo-Johnson, Robson, Schlenker, Tillett, VandeVusse, Villalpando, and Weborg); Noes, 1 (Public Member Conway); and Not Voting, 3 (Public Members Benton, Mason, and Perry).
- WLC: 0046/2, relating to an electronic application and information systems to determine eligibility and register for public assistance programs, passed by a vote of Ayes, 16 (Reps. Mason, Pasch, and Pope-Roberts; Sen. Wirch; and Public Members Conway, Eglash, Falkenberg, Jentsch, Lathen, Pattillo-Johnson, Robson, Schlenker, Tillett, VandeVusse, Villalpando, and Weborg); and Not Voting, 3 (Public Members Benton, Mason, and Perry).
- WLC: 0055/2, relating to directing the department of health services to request a medical assistance waiver, passed by a vote of Ayes, 16 (Reps. Mason, Pasch, and Pope-Roberts; Sen. Wirch; and Public Members Conway, Eglash, Falkenberg, Jentsch, Lathen, Pattillo-Johnson, Robson, Schlenker, Tillett, VandeVusse, Villalpando, and Weborg); and Not Voting, 3 (Public Members Benton, Mason, and Perry).
- WLC: 0059/3, relating to hospital best practices for postpartum patients and newborns, passed by a vote of Ayes, 16 (Reps. Mason, Pasch, and Pope-Roberts; Sen. Wirch; and Public Members Conway, Eglash, Falkenberg, Jentsch, Lathen, Pattillo-Johnson, Robson, Schlenker, Tillett, VandeVusse, Villalpando, and Weborg); and Not Voting, 3 (Public Members Benton, Mason, and Perry).
- WLC: 0060/3, relating to a report on information related to infant morbidity and mortality, passed by a vote of Ayes, 15 (Reps. Mason, Pasch, and Pope-Roberts; Sen. Wirch; and Public Members Eglash, Falkenberg, Jentsch, Lathen, Pattillo-Johnson, Robson, Schlenker, Tillett, VandeVusse, Villalpando, and Weborg); Noes, 1 (Public Member Conway); and Not Voting, 3 (Public Members Benton, Mason, and Perry).
- WLC: 0063/3, relating to hospital staff privileges and written agreements required for nurse-midwives and allowing nurse-midwives to elect to be covered under the injured patients and families compensation fund, passed by a vote of Ayes, 14 (Reps. Mason, Pasch, and Pope-Roberts; Sen. Wirch; and Public Members Conway, Jentsch, Lathen, Pattillo-Johnson, Robson, Schlenker, Tillett, VandeVusse, Villalpando, and Weborg); Noes, 2 (Public Members Eglash and Falkenberg); and Not Voting, 3 (Public Members Benton, Mason, and Perry).

- WLC: 0069/3, relating to eligibility for the Wisconsin earned income tax credit for certain parents, passed by a vote of Ayes, 15 (Reps. Mason, Pasch, and Pope-Roberts; Sen. Wirch; and Public Members Eglash, Falkenberg, Jentsch, Lathen, Pattillo-Johnson, Robson, Schlenker, Tillett, VandeVusse, Villalpando, and Weborg); Noes, 1 (Public Member Conway); and Not Voting, 3 (Public Members Benton, Mason, and Perry).
- WLC: 0072/2, relating to requiring informed consent for performance of certain elective procedures prior to full gestational term of the fetus, passed by a vote of Ayes, 15 (Reps. Mason, Pasch, and Pope-Roberts; Sen. Wirch; and Public Members Conway, Eglash, Falkenberg, Jentsch, Lathen, Pattillo-Johnson, Robson, Schlenker, VandeVusse, Villalpando, and Weborg); Noes, 1 (Public Member Tillett); and Not Voting, 3 (Public Members Benton, Mason, and Perry).
- WLC: 0074/2, relating to designation of an infant's race on the birth certificate, passed by a vote of Ayes, 16 (Reps. Mason, Pasch, and Pope-Roberts; Sen. Wirch; and Public Members Conway, Eglash, Falkenberg, Jentsch, Lathen, Pattillo-Johnson, Robson, Schlenker, Tillett, VandeVusse, Villalpando, and Weborg); and Not Voting, 3 (Public Members Benton, Mason, and Perry).
- WLC: 0090/1, relating to evidence-based home visiting programs, passed by a vote of Ayes, 14 (Reps. Mason, Pasch, and Pope-Roberts; Sen. Wirch; and Public Members Conway, Eglash, Falkenberg, Jentsch, Lathen, Pattillo-Johnson, Robson, Schlenker, Villalpando, and Weborg); Noes, 2 (Public Members Tillett and VandeVusse,); and Not Voting, 3 (Public Members Benton, Mason, and Perry).
- WLC: 0099/1, relating to a report on information related to hospital neonatal intensive care units, passed by a vote of Ayes, 16 (Reps. Mason, Pasch, and Pope-Roberts; Sen. Wirch; and Public Members Conway, Eglash, Falkenberg, Jentsch, Lathen, Pattillo-Johnson, Robson, Schlenker, Tillett, VandeVusse, Villalpando, and Weborg); and Not Voting, 3 (Public Members Benton, Mason, and Perry).

## Joint Legislative Council Votes

At its January 18, 2012 meeting, the Joint Legislative Council voted to introduce three drafts: WLC: 0072/2, relating to requiring informed consent for performance of certain elective procedures prior to full gestational term of the fetus; WLC: 0074/2, relating to designation of an infant's race on the birth certificate; and WLC: 0090/1, relating to evidence-based home visiting programs. The Joint Legislative Council did not approve any other drafts for introduction. The Joint Legislative Council's action on each draft is set forth below.

*Sen. Miller moved, seconded by Sen. Schultz, to vote on all the recommendations of the Special Committee on Infant Mortality en masse and to have the proposals rolled into one bill. The motion failed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes, 8 (Reps. Barca, Berceau, Mason and Pasch; and Sens. Cullen, Miller, Schultz and Taylor); Noes, 12 (Reps. Ballweg, Fitzgerald, Kaufert, Kramer, Nygren and Suder; and Sens. Lazich, Darling, Fitzgerald, Galloway, Lasee and Leibham); and Absent, 2 (Rep. Vos and Sen. Erpenbach).*

*Rep. Barca moved that drafts **WLC: 0046/2, WLC: 0058/2, WLC: 0059/3, WLC: 0074/2, and WLC: 0099/1**, be introduced. Rep. Barca withdrew his motion prior to a second being noted.*

Co-Chair Ballweg asked for a motion for introduction on WLC: 0045/2. After a brief discussion:

*Rep. Barca moved, seconded by Sen. Schultz, that **WLC: 0045/2**, relating to cultural competency training for medical students and students enrolled in programs in a health care occupation in the University of Wisconsin-System and certain technical college students, be introduced by the Joint Legislative Council. The motion failed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes, 8 (Reps. Barca, Berceau, Mason and Pasch; and Sens. Cullen, Miller, Schultz and Taylor); Noes, 12 (Reps. Ballweg, Fitzgerald, Kaufert, Kramer, Nygren and Suder; and Sens. Lazich, Darling, Fitzgerald, Galloway, Lasee and Leibham); and Absent, 2 (Rep. Vos and Sen. Erpenbach).*

Co-Chair Ballweg asked for a motion for introduction on WLC: 0046/2.

*Rep. Barca moved, seconded by Sen. Schultz, that **WLC: 0046/2**, relating to an electronic application and information system to determine eligibility and register for public assistance programs, be introduced by the Joint Legislative Council. The motion failed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes, 8 (Reps. Barca, Berceau, Mason and Pasch; and Sens. Cullen, Miller, Schultz and Taylor); Noes, 12 (Reps. Ballweg, Fitzgerald, Kaufert, Kramer, Nygren and Suder; and Sens. Lazich, Darling, Fitzgerald, Galloway, Lasee and Leibham); and Absent, 2 (Rep. Vos and Sen. Erpenbach).*

Co-Chair Ballweg asked for a motion for introduction on WLC: 0055/2.

*Rep. Barca moved, seconded by Sen. Schultz, that **WLC: 0055/2**, relating to directing the department of health services to request a medical assistance waiver, be introduced by the Joint Legislative Council. The motion failed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes, 8 (Reps. Barca, Berceau, Mason and Pasch; and Sens. Cullen, Miller, Schultz and Taylor); Noes, 12 (Reps. Ballweg, Fitzgerald, Kaufert, Kramer, Nygren and Suder; and Sens. Lazich, Darling, Fitzgerald, Galloway, Lasee and Leibham); and Absent, 2 (Rep. Vos and Sen. Erpenbach).*

Co-Chair Ballweg asked for a motion for introduction on WLC: 0059/3.

*Rep. Barca moved, seconded by Sen. Schultz, that **WLC: 0059/3**, relating to hospital best practices for postpartum patients and newborns requiring the exercise of rule-making authority, be introduced by the Joint Legislative Council. The motion failed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes, 7 (Reps. Barca, Berceau, Mason and Pasch; and Sens. Miller, Schultz and Taylor); Noes, 11 (Reps. Ballweg, Fitzgerald, Kaufert, Kramer, Nygren and Suder; and Sens. Lazich, Darling, Fitzgerald, Lasee and Leibham); and Absent, 4 (Rep. Vos; and Sens. Cullen, Erpenbach and Galloway).*

After a brief discussion by committee members, by unanimous consent, one vote on the following drafts, WLC: 0072/2, WLC: 0074/2, and WLC: 0090/1, was called for.

Co-Chair Ballweg asked for a motion for introduction on WLC: 0072/2, WLC: 0074/2, and WLC: 0090/1.

*Rep. Kramer moved, seconded by Rep. Nygren, that **WLC: 0072/2, WLC: 0074/2** and **WLC: 0090/1**, be introduced by the Joint Legislative Council. The motion passed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes, 18 (Reps. Ballweg, Barca, Berceau, Fitzgerald, Kaufert, Kramer, Mason, Nygren and Pasch; and Sens. Lazich, Cullen, Darling, Fitzgerald, Lasee, Leibham, Miller, Schultz and Taylor); Noes, 1 (Rep. Suder); and Absent, 3 (Rep. Vos; and Sens. Erpenbach, and Galloway).*

Co-Chair Ballweg asked for a motion for introduction on WLC: 0060/3.

*Rep. Barca moved, seconded by Sen. Schultz, that **WLC: 0060/3**, relating to a report on information related to infant morbidity and mortality, be introduced by the Joint Legislative Council. The motion failed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes, 9 (Reps. Barca, Berceau, Mason, Nygren and Pasch; and Sens. Cullen, Miller, Schultz and Taylor); Noes, 10 (Reps. Ballweg, Fitzgerald, Kaufert, Kramer and Suder; and Sens. Lazich, Darling, Fitzgerald, Lasee, and Leibham); and Absent, 3 (Rep. Vos; and Sens. Erpenbach and Galloway).*

*Rep. Kramer moved, seconded by Sen. Schultz, that **WLC: 0063/3, WLC: 0069/3** and **WLC: 0099/1**, be introduced by the Joint Legislative Council. The motion failed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes, 8 (Reps. Barca, Berceau, Mason and Pasch; and Sens. Cullen, Miller, Schultz and Taylor); Noes, 11 (Reps. Ballweg, Fitzgerald, Kaufert, Kramer, Nygren and Suder; and Sens. Lazich, Darling, Fitzgerald, Lasee and Leibham); and Absent, 3 (Rep. Vos; and Sens. Erpenbach and Galloway).*

*Rep. Barca moved, seconded by Sen. Schultz, that **WLC: 0099/1**, relating to a report on information related to hospital neonatal intensive care units, be introduced by the Joint Legislative Council. The motion failed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes, 9 (Reps. Barca, Berceau, Kaufert, Mason and Pasch; and Sens. Cullen, Miller, Schultz and Taylor); Noes, 9 (Reps. Ballweg, Fitzgerald, Kramer and Suder; and Sens. Lazich, Darling, Fitzgerald, Lasee, and Leibham); and Absent, 4 (Reps. Nygren and Vos; and Sens. Erpenbach and Galloway).*

## Appendix 2

### Joint Legislative Council

*[Joint Legislative Council Members Who Selected and Appointed Committee and Its Membership]*

#### Co-Chair

##### **FRED A. RISSER**

*Senate President*

100 Wisconsin Avenue, Unit 501  
Madison, WI 53703

#### Co-Chair

##### **MARLIN D. SCHNEIDER**

*Representative*

3820 Southbrook Lane  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

#### **SENATORS**

##### **SPENCER COGGS**

7819 W. Potomac Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53222

##### **SHEILA HARSDORF**

N6627 County Road E  
River Falls, WI 54022

##### **JUDY ROBSON**

2411 E. Ridge Road  
Beloit, WI 53511

##### **ALBERTA DARLING**

1325 West Dean Road  
River Hills, WI 53217

##### **PAT KREITLOW**

*President Pro Tempore*  
15854 93<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

##### **DALE SCHULTZ**

515 North Central Avenue  
Richland Center, WI 53581

##### **RUSSELL DECKER**

*Majority Leader*  
6803 Lora Lee Lane  
Schofield, WI 54476

##### **MARK MILLER**

4903 Roigan Terrace  
Monona, WI 53716

##### **ROBERT WIRCH**

3007 Springbrook Road  
Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158

##### **SCOTT FITZGERALD**

*Minority Leader*  
N4692 Maple Road  
Juneau, WI 53039

#### **REPRESENTATIVES**

##### **JOAN BALLWEG**

170 W. Summit Street  
Markesan, WI 53946

##### **DEAN KAUFERT**

1360 Alpine Lane  
Neenah, WI 54956

##### **MICHAEL SHERIDAN**

*Speaker*  
1032 Nantucket Drive  
Janesville, WI 53546

##### **TERESE BERCEAU**

4326 Somerset Lane  
Madison, WI 53711

##### **THOMAS NELSON**

*Majority Leader*  
1510 Orchard Drive  
Kaukauna, WI 54130

##### **TONY STASKUNAS**

*Speaker Pro Tempore*  
2010 South 103<sup>rd</sup> Court  
West Allis, WI 53227

##### **SPENCER BLACK**

5742 Elder Place  
Madison, WI 53705

##### **MARK POCAN**

309 N. Baldwin Street  
Madison, WI 53703

##### **ROBIN VOS**

4710 Eastwood Ridge  
Racine, WI 53406

##### **JEFF FITZGERALD**

*Minority Leader*  
910 Sunset  
Horicon, WI 53032

This 22-member committee consists of the majority and minority party leadership of both houses of the Legislature, the co-chairs and ranking minority members of the Joint Committee on Finance, and 5 Senators and 5 Representatives appointed as are members of standing committees.

# Joint Legislative Council

[Current Joint Legislative Council Members Receiving Committee Report]

## SENATE MEMBERS

### **MARY LAZICH, Co-Chair**

4405 South 129<sup>th</sup> Street  
New Berlin, WI 53151

### **TIM CULLEN**

3711 N. Spring Hill Drive  
Janesville, WI 53545

### **ALBERTA DARLING**

1325 West Dean Road  
River Hills, WI 53217

### **JON ERPENBACH**

6150 Briggs Road  
Waunakee, WI 53597

### **SCOTT FITZGERALD**

*Majority Leader*

N4692 Maple Road  
Juneau, WI 53039

### **PAM GALLOWAY**

1506 Pine View Lane  
Wausau, WI 54403

### **FRANK LASEE**

Room 104 South, State Capitol  
P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707-7882

### **JOE LEIBHAM**

*President Pro Tempore*

3618 River Ridge Drive  
Sheboygan, WI 53083

### **MARK MILLER**

*Minority Leader*

4903 Roigan Terrace  
Monona, WI 53716

### **DALE SCHULTZ**

515 North Central Avenue  
Richland Center, WI 53581

### **LENA TAYLOR**

1518 West Capitol  
Milwaukee, WI 53206

## ASSEMBLY MEMBERS

### **JOAN BALLWEG, Co-Chair**

170 W. Summit Street  
Markesan, WI 53946

### **PETER BARCA**

*Minority Leader*

1339 38 Ave.  
Kenosha, WI 53144

### **TERESE BERCEAU**

4326 Somers Lane  
Madison, WI 53711

### **JEFF FITZGERALD**

*Speaker*

910 Sunset  
Horicon, WI 53032

### **TAMARA GRIGSBY**

2354 N. 41<sup>st</sup> Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53210

### **DEAN KAUFERT**

1360 Alpine Lane  
Neenah, WI 54956

### **BILL KRAMER**

*Speaker Pro Tempore*

2005 Cliff Alex Ct. South, #3  
Waukesha, WI 53189

### **JOHN NYGREN**

N2118 Keller Rd.  
Marinette, WI 54143

### **SANDY PASCH**

6301 N. Berkeley Blvd.  
Whitefish Bay, WI 53217

### **SCOTT SUDER**

*Majority Leader*

102 South 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Abbotsford, WI 54405

### **ROBIN VOS**

960 Rock Ridge Road  
Burlington, WI 53105

This 22-member committee consists of the majority and minority party leadership of both houses of the Legislature, the co-chairs and ranking minority members of the Joint Committee on Finance, and 5 Senators and 5 Representatives appointed as are members of standing committees.

*Terry C. Anderson, Director, Legislative Council Staff  
1 East Main Street, Suite 401, P.O. Box 2536, Madison, Wisconsin 53701-2536*

## Appendix 3

### INFANT MORTALITY

Judith Robson, **Chair**  
2411 East Ridge Rd.  
Beloit, WI 53511

Representative Sandy Pasch  
6301 N. Berkeley Blvd.  
Whitefish Bay, WI 53217

Senator Robert Wirch  
3007 Springbrook Rd.  
Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158

Ann Conway  
Executive Director  
WI Assoc. for Perinatal Care & Perinatal Foundation  
McConnell Hall, 1010 Mound St.  
Madison, WI 53715

Dr. Amy Falkenberg  
Memorial Health Center  
135 South Gibson St.  
Medford, WI 54551

Lorraine Lathen  
Jump at the Sun Consultants  
11520 N. Port Washington Rd., Ste. 2  
Mequon, WI 53092

Dr. Sheri Pattillo Johnson  
3437 North 45<sup>th</sup> St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53216

Dr. Thomas Schlenker  
Public Health of Madison and Dane County  
210 Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd.  
Room 507  
Madison, WI 53703

Dr. Leona VandeVusse  
Marquette University College of Nursing  
4371 S. Lake Dr.  
Cudahy, WI 53110-1241

Cindy Weborg  
Program Director, Honoring Our Children,  
Family Health Department  
7361 Shady Lane  
Minoqua, WI 54548

Representative Cory Mason, **Vice-Chair**  
3611 Kinzie Ave.  
Racine, WI 53405

Representative Sondy Pope-Roberts  
4793 Delmara Rd.  
Middleton, WI 53562

Anna Benton  
Director, Family & Community Health Services  
Milwaukee Health Department  
841 North Broadway, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Milwaukee, WI 53202-3653

Dr. Anne Eglash  
UW Health – Physicians Plus  
600 N. 8<sup>th</sup> St.  
Mt. Horeb, WI 53572

Lisa Jentsch  
Director, Children’s Hospital and Health System  
P.O. Box 1997  
Milwaukee, WI 53201-1997

Dr. Tina Mason  
Aurora Sinai Medical Center  
945 North 12<sup>th</sup> St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Richard Perry  
CEO, Community Health Systems, Inc.  
8922 Folkstone Ct.  
Roscoe, IL 61073-8381

Jacquelyn Tillett  
Manager, Midwifery & Wellness Center  
Aurora Sinai Medical Center  
1020 N. 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Mark Villalpando  
Firefighter  
2701 90<sup>th</sup> St.  
Sturtevant, WI 53177

**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The Special Committee is directed to study: (a) the causes of infant mortality in Wisconsin; (b) evaluation of efforts that have been undertaken to address this problem in both the private and public sectors; (c) coordination of public health and Medicaid funding; (d) evaluation of infant mortality prevention programs that have been successful in other cities and states; (e) evaluation of the public health costs of not addressing the causes of infant mortality in Wisconsin; and (f) developing a strategic proposal, including any necessary legislation, to address infant mortality in Wisconsin, particularly disparities in infant mortality rates in different geographic areas of the state.

**19 MEMBERS:** 1 Senator; 3 Representatives; and 15 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Mary Matthias and Rachel Letzing, Senior Staff Attorneys; and Tracey Young, Support Staff.



## Appendix 4

### Committee Materials List (Copies of documents are available at [www.legis.state.wi.us/lc](http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc))

Results of the Joint Legislative Council Meeting					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Results Letter</a></li> </ul>					
Recommendations to the Joint Legislative Council - January 18, 2012 Meeting					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Memo</a>, to Members of the Special Committee, <i>Council Consideration of Committee Report</i> (January 11, 2012).</li> <li>• <a href="#">Proposed</a> Report to the Legislature, No. 2011-12, <i>Legislation on Infant Mortality</i>, (December 8, 2011).</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0045/2</a>, relating to cultural competency training for medical students and students enrolled in programs in a health care occupation in the University of Wisconsin-System and certain technical college students.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0046/2</a>, relating to an electronic application and information system to determine eligibility and register for public assistance programs.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0055/2</a>, relating to directing the department of health services to request a medical assistance waiver.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0059/3</a>, relating to hospital best practices for postpartum patients and newborns requiring the exercise of rule-making authority.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0060/3</a>, relating to a report on information related to infant morbidity and mortality.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0063/3</a>, relating to hospital staff privileges for and written agreements required for nurse-midwives and allowing nurse-midwives to elect to be covered under the injured patients and families compensation fund.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0069/3</a>, relating to eligibility for the Wisconsin earned income tax credit for certain parents.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0072/2</a>, relating to requiring informed consent for performance of certain elective procedures prior to full gestational term of the fetus.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0074/2</a>, relating to designation of an infant's race on the birth certificate.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0090/1</a>, relating to evidence-based home visiting programs.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0099/1</a>, relating to a report on information related to hospital neonatal intensive care units.</li> </ul>					
Results of the March 3, 2011 Mail Ballot					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Results Letter</a>.</li> </ul>					
February 24, 2011 Mail Ballot					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0045/2</a>, relating to cultural competency training for medical students and students enrolled in programs in a health care occupation in the University of Wisconsin-System and certain technical college students.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0046/2</a>, relating to an electronic application and information system to determine eligibility and register for public assistance programs.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0055/2</a>, relating to directing the department of health services to request a medical assistance waiver.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0059/3</a>, relating to hospital best practices for postpartum patients and newborns requiring the exercise of rule-making authority.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0060/3</a>, relating to a report on information related to infant morbidity and mortality.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0063/3</a>, relating to hospital staff privileges for and written agreements required for nurse-midwives and allowing nurse-midwives to elect to be covered under the injured patients and families compensation fund.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0069/3</a>, relating to eligibility for the Wisconsin earned income tax credit for certain parents.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0072/2</a>, relating to requiring informed consent for performance of certain elective procedures prior to full gestational term of the fetus.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0074/2</a>, relating to designation of an infant's race on the birth certificate.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0090/1</a>, relating to evidence-based home visiting programs.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0099/1</a>, relating to a report on information related to hospital neonatal intensive care units.</li> </ul>					
December 16, 2010		Notice	Agenda	Audio	Minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0045/1</a>, relating to cultural sensitivity training for medical and nursing students in the University of Wisconsin-System and certain technical college students.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0046/1</a>, relating to an electronic application and information system to determine eligibility and register for public assistance programs.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0055/1</a>, relating to directing the department of health services to request a medical assistance waiver.</li> <li>• <a href="#">WLC: 0059/1</a>, relating to hospital best practices for postpartum patients and newborns requiring the exercise of rule-making</li> </ul>					

authority.

- [WLC: 0060/1](#), relating to a report on information related to infant morbidity and mortality.
- [WLC: 0063/1](#), relating to hospital staff privileges for and written agreements required for nurse-midwives and allowing nurse-midwives to elect to be covered under the injured patients and families compensation fund.
- [WLC: 0068/1](#), relating to advanced certificate for licensed practical nurses.
- [WLC: 0069/1](#), relating to eligibility for the Wisconsin earned income tax credit for certain parents.
- [WLC: 0070/1](#), relating to home visits by nurses and nurse assistants to achieve good birth outcomes for mothers and infants.
- [WLC: 0071/1](#), relating to expanding the physician practice payment pilot program.
- [WLC: 0072/1](#), relating to requiring informed consent for performance of certain elective procedures prior to full gestational term of the fetus.
- [WLC: 0074/1](#), relating to designation of an infant's race on the birth certificate.
- [Draft letter](#) to Christopher Queram, President, Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality.
- [Memorandum](#), distributed at the request of Public Member Ann Conway.

<b>November 16, 2010</b>	<a href="#">Notice</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>	<a href="#">Audio</a>	<a href="#">Minutes</a>
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- Packet of Materials from Secretary Karen Timberlake, Department of Health Services:
  - [Memorandum](#) to Senator Judy Robson.
  - [Wisconsin Births and Infant Deaths](#).
  - [Wisconsin Health Facts: Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Infant Mortality](#).
  - [DHS Response: Data Request from the Legislative Council Special Committee on Infant Mortality](#).
  - Spreadsheets prepared by the Department of Health Services
    - [Infant Mortality Rates](#)
    - [Prematurity and Prenatal Care](#)
- [Memorandum](#), prepared by Sam Austin and Kim Swissdorf, Legislative Fiscal Bureau (November 15, 2010).
- [Memo No. 1, Recommendations for Legislation](#) (November 15, 2010).
- [Report, Illinois Cornerstone System Review](#) (October 25, 2010), presented by Paula Sherman and Bob Martin, Department of Health Services.
- [PowerPoint](#) Presentation, presented by Jason Helgerson, Medicaid Director, Department of Health Services.
- [PowerPoint](#) Presentation, by Public Member Sheri Johnson, Ph.D., *Racism and Birth Outcomes*.

<b>October 13, 2010 (Beloit Memorial Hospital, Beloit, Wisconsin)</b>	<a href="#">Notice</a>	<a href="#">Agenda</a>	<a href="#">Audio</a>	<a href="#">Minutes</a>
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- [Handout](#), distributed at the request of Public Member Thomas Schlenker, M.D. MPH, Director, Madison and Dane County Public Health.
- [Article](#), AACN Applauds the New Institute of Medicine Report Calling for Transformational Change in Nursing Education and Practice, distributed at the request of Public Member Leona VandeVusse.
- [Article](#), *AMA Responds to IOM Report on Future of Nursing*, distributed at the request of Public Member Leona VandeVusse.
- [Memo](#), *Delivery and newborn Care in Hospitals*, from Judy Warmuth, Vice President Workforce and Laura Leitch, Senior Vice President and General Counsel.
- [Letter](#) to Secretary Karen Timberlake, Department of Health Services, from Senator Judy Robson, Chair, Special Committee on Infant Mortality.
- [PowerPoint](#) Presentation, by Marilyn Kilgore, President, Beloit African American Infant Mortality Coalition and Angela Moore, Project Coordinator, Beloit LIHF.
- [Issue Brief](#), *The Case for Home Visiting, Strong families start with a solid foundation*, prepared by The Pew Center on the States (May 2010).
- [Report](#), *Ask Me 3 in Wisconsin's Community Health Centers: Summary Evaluation Report*, Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality (June 2010).
- [Article](#), *Reducing Racial Bias Among Health Care Providers: Lessons from Social-Cognitive Psychology*, submitted by Public Member Sheri Patillo Johnson.
- [Handout](#), Recommendations to the Special Committee on Infant Mortality, submitted by the March of Dimes.
- [PowerPoint](#) Presentation, by the March of Dimes.
- [PowerPoint](#) Presentation, by Cindy Schlough, Director of Strategic Partnerships, Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality.
- [Testimony](#), John Schlitt, Director and Beth Jacob, State Policy Manager, Pew Home Visiting Campaign.
- [Article](#), *The Pew Home Visiting Campaign, Helping States Improve Quality, Evaluation, and Accountability*, by John Schlitt, Director, Pew Home Visiting Campaign.
- [PowerPoint](#) Presentation, by Karen Cain, Health Officer, Rock County Public Health Department.
- [PowerPoint](#) Presentation, by Public Member Leona VandeVusse, Ph.D.
- [PowerPoint](#) Presentation, by Jackie Tillett, CNM, ND, FACNM, Midwifery and Wellness Center, Aurora Sinai Medical Center.

September 22, 2010	Notice	Agenda	Audio	Minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <a href="#">Article</a>, <i>Regionalization of perinatal care in Wisconsin: A changing health care environment</i>, by Christine Van Mullem, RN, MS; Ann E. Conway, RN, MS, MPA; Kyle Mounts, MD; Donald Weber, MD; Carol A. Browning, MD, Wisconsin Medical Journal, Volume 103, No. 5 (2004), distributed at the request of Public Member Ann Conway. Ms. Conway also requested the committee receive links to the following documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ H.R. 5807, federal legislation to promote optimal maternity outcomes by making evidence-based maternity care a national priority <a href="http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&amp;docid=f:h5807jh.txt.pdf">http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&amp;docid=f:h5807jh.txt.pdf</a>.</li> <li>○ Information about the bill from the author (<a href="http://roybal-allard.house.gov/News/DocumentSingle.aspx?DocumentID=199707">http://roybal-allard.house.gov/News/DocumentSingle.aspx?DocumentID=199707</a>)</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Information being distributed at the request of Chair Robson: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Wisconsin grant submission was recently posted on the Department of Children and Families' website at: <a href="http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/children/home.../grant_submission.htm">dcf.wisconsin.gov/children/home.../grant_submission.htm</a>. You can find the <a href="#">Aug. 2 press release</a> on the DHS website</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <a href="#">Report</a>, Fetal and infant mortality review (FIMR) project of Racine 2007-2008), submitted by Teresa S. Johnson, Ph.D. RN, University of Wisconsin, College of Nursing.</li> <li>● <a href="#">PowerPoint Presentation</a>, The Greater Racine Collaborative for Healthy Birth Outcomes/Racine LIFH Project, presented by Carole M. Johnson, Ph.D., The Johnson Foundation at Wingspread, Sharon Schulz, Racine/Kenosha Community Action Agency, and Lena Cooksley, The Professional Women's Network for Service.</li> <li>● <a href="#">Data</a> Request from Public Member Dr. Thomas Schlenker, September 10, 2010.</li> <li>● <a href="#">Testimony</a>, from Dottie-Kay Bowersox, MSA, Public Health Administrator, City of Racine.</li> <li>● <a href="#">Handout</a>, <i>Fetal and infant mortality project (FIMR) of Racine (project funded from 5/07-5/09) data collection 1/1/07 - 12/31/08</i>, submitted by Teresa S. Johnson, Ph.D., R.N., Associate Professor, UW-Milwaukee, College of Nursing, Research/Nurse Consultant, WFHC-AS, and Margaret Malnory, MSN, R.N., Administrative Director, Women and children's Services, Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare-All Saints.</li> <li>● <a href="#">PowerPoint Presentation</a>, Kenosha LIHF Collaborative, <i>We hold our babies future in our hands</i>, Gwen Perry-Byre, RNC, MS, APN, and Pamela Smith, MS, Project Coordinator, Black Health Coalition of Greater Kenosha.</li> <li>● <a href="#">Presentation</a>, by Teri Hicks, City of Racine Health Department. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">Testimony</a>, by Teri Hicks, City of Racine Health Department.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				
September 8, 2010	Notice	Agenda	Audio	Minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <a href="#">Wisconsin Healthy Birth Outcomes: Minority Health Program Challenges and Contributions</a>, Journal of Public Health Management Practice, November 2008.</li> <li>● <a href="#">2007 Wisconsin Act 20, Reducing Fetal and Infant Mortality and Morbidity Report</a>, Racine Healthy Births Healthy Families Program, October 2007 – December 2008.</li> <li>● <a href="#">PowerPoint Presentation</a>, from Dr. Phil Farrell, M.D., Ph.D., Professor, Pediatrics and Population Health Sciences, UW School of Medicine and Public Health and Co-Chair of the Steering Committee for the Wisconsin Partnership Program for the Healthy Birth Outcome Initiative.</li> <li>● <a href="#">PowerPoint Presentation</a>, <i>African American Infant Mortality, City of Milwaukee</i>, presented by Dr. Patricia McManus, Executive Director, Black Health Coalition of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.</li> <li>● <a href="#">PowerPoint Presentation</a>, <i>Reducing Infant Mortality Disparities in Wisconsin</i>, presented by Dr. Gloria Sarto, M.D., Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.</li> <li>● <a href="#">PowerPoint Presentation</a>, <i>Healthy Birth Outcomes: Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Disparities</i>, by Dr. Murray L. Katcher, Ph.D., Chief Medical Officer and Patrice Onheiber, MPA, Director, Disparities in Birth Outcomes, Department of Health Services. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">Handout</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>● <a href="#">PowerPoint Presentation</a>, by Kathleen Pritchard, Ph.D., President and CEO, Planning Council for Health and Human Services, Inc.</li> <li>● <a href="#">Report</a>, <i>Elimination of Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Birth Outcomes in Wisconsin</i> (February 8, 2008), distributed at the request of Dr. Phil Farrell, M.D., Ph.D., Professor, Pediatrics and Population Health Sciences, UW School of Medicine and Public Health and Co-Chair of the Steering Committee for the Wisconsin Partnership Program for the Healthy Birth Outcome Initiative.</li> <li>● <a href="#">PowerPoint Presentation</a>, by Cynthia D. Ferré, Pregnancy and Infant Health Branch, Division of Reproductive Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia.</li> </ul>				



State of Wisconsin  
JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Co-Chairs  
MARY LAZICH  
Senator

JOAN BALLWEG  
Representative



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May 12, 2011

Mr. Christopher Queram, President  
Wisconsin Collaborative for Healthcare Quality  
7974 UW Health Court  
Middleton, WI 53562

Mr. Queram:

On behalf of the members of the Special Committee on Infant Mortality, I am writing to request help from the WCHQ in our attempts to improve birth outcomes for all populations in Wisconsin and to reduce the unacceptably high rate of deaths of African-American babies in Wisconsin.

As you are probably aware, infant mortality rates for African-American babies in Wisconsin are higher than the rates in many so-called Third World countries. A black woman in Wisconsin faces an increased risk of a poor birth outcome, or loss of her child before the child reaches age 1, regardless of the woman's age, income, or education level. In addition, the committee is concerned about possible negative effects of certain trends in health care provided to pregnant women in Wisconsin, specifically elective preterm inductions of labor and elective preterm caesarean sections.

As was made clear in the excellent presentation made to the committee by Cindy Schlough, your Director of Strategic Partnerships, WCHQ has been uniquely effective in promoting and facilitating improvements in the quality of health care provided to Wisconsin's citizens. Therefore the Special Committee requests that the WCHQ take steps to determine which health care services have the greatest impact on birth outcomes and develop and implement performance measures to assess the quality of those services. We believe that this work will incentivize health care providers to examine and improve their own services and to adopt best practices that are identified as a result of your efforts.

Implementing performance measures that are tied to birth outcomes could be especially productive right now. Several unprecedented initiatives to address the infant mortality epidemic -- the Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families and the Medicaid Healthy Birth Outcomes

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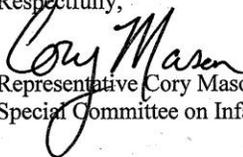
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Medical Home Pilot - provide an excellent opportunity to study different models of health care delivery to pregnant women.

In closing, we hope you will give serious attention to the infant mortality crisis in our state and grant a high priority to activating the impressive resources of the WCHQ to help the most vulnerable of Wisconsin's citizens.

Respectfully,

  
Representative Cory Mason, Vice-Chair  
Special Committee on Infant Mortality

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