

1 **AN ACT** *to renumber and amend* 49.155 (7) (b) 4. of the statutes; **relating to:**
2 procedures for suspension of payments to child care providers in the Wisconsin
3 Shares program.

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 Public Assistance Program Integrity.

The draft renumbers and amends s. 49.155 (7) (b) 4., Stats., to make temporary the suspension of payments to child care providers based solely on reasonable suspicion of a program violation. Under current law, the Department of Children and Families is authorized to suspend payments to child care providers based on the department's reasonable suspicion that the provider has violated any provision of s. 49.155, Stats., relating to the Wisconsin Shares program. It does not specify the length of time that the department may suspend payments on that basis. A separate section of the statutes, s. 49.155 (7m), provides authority for the permanent suspension of payments to child care providers pursuant to a finding in an administrative or judicial proceeding that a violation has occurred.

The draft preserves the department's authority to suspend payments based on reasonable suspicion that a violation has occurred but limits the period during which payments may be suspended on that basis to 30 working days.

4 **SECTION 1.** 49.155 (7) (b) 4. of the statutes is renumbered 49.155 (7) (c) and amended
5 to read:
6 49.155 (7) (c) The department or the county department under s. 46.125, 46.22, or 46.23
7 may refuse to pay a child care provider for child care provided under this section for a period
8 no longer than [30 working days; 90 working days; 6 months; 1 year] if the department or

1 county department reasonably suspects that the person has violated any provision under the
2 program under this section or any rule promulgated under this section.

3 (END)