



2023 ASSEMBLY BILL 616

November 2, 2023 - Introduced by Representatives HURD, BORN, SUMMERFIELD, ARMSTRONG, DALLMAN, DITTRICH, DRAKE, DUCHOW, EDMING, GUNDRUM, KURTZ, MURPHY, NOVAK, RODRIGUEZ, ROZAR, SCHUTT, STEFFEN, SUBECK, WICHGERS, GOEBEN and KITCHENS, cosponsored by Senators MARKLEIN, JAMES, BALLWEG, FELZKOWSKI, FEYEN, JAGLER, TESTIN, NASS, CABRAL-GUEVARA and COWLES. Referred to Committee on Health, Aging and Long-Term Care.

- 1 **AN ACT to amend** 49.45 (53m) of the statutes; **relating to:** Medical Assistance
2 coverage of services provided in an institution for mental disease.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Currently, the Department of Health Services administers the Medical Assistance (MA) program, which is a joint federal and state program that provides health services to individuals who have limited financial resources. Generally, under the MA program, the state provides its share of the funding for benefits and the federal government then contributes its designated share of funding, also known as federal financial participation.

Under current law, DHS may, but is not required to, cover under the MA program the costs of services provided to MA beneficiaries in an institution for mental disease if federal financial participation is available and certain other requirements are met; under this bill, DHS must cover the costs of those services under the MA program if federal funding participation is available and certain other requirements are met. The bill also requires DHS, by January 1, 2025, to submit a request to the federal Department of Health and Human Services for any waiver or approval necessary to provide MA coverage, with federal funding participation, of short-term stays for acute care in an institution for mental disease.

For further information see the state and local fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

