



State of Wisconsin  
2015 - 2016 LEGISLATURE

LRB-2958/2  
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## 2015 SENATE BILL 370

October 29, 2015 – Introduced by Senators ERPENBACH, SHILLING, WIRCH, RINGHAND, HARRIS DODD, L. TAYLOR, C. LARSON, LASSA and HANSEN, cosponsored by Representatives HINTZ, KAHL, HESSELBEIN, JOHNSON, MILROY, MASON, ZAMARRIPA, MURPHY, SINICKI, BARNES, BROSTOFF, BERCEAU, SHANKLAND, JORGENSEN, POPE, KOLSTE, CONSIDINE, GOYKE, HEBL, GENRICH, OHNSTAD, DOYLE, WACHS, BOWEN, BILLINGS and SUBECK. Referred to Committee on Government Operations and Consumer Protection.

1     **AN ACT** *to amend* 45.40 (2) (a); and *to create* 45.40 (2) (d), 45.40 (6) and 45.40  
2           (7) of the statutes; **relating to:** health care aid for certain veterans and their  
3           family members.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

This bill authorizes the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) to provide needy veterans and their eligible family members with health care aid related to mental illness or treatment for substance abuse. Under current law, that aid is limited to dental, vision, and hearing care. The bill also requires DVA to provide a voucher for care related to mental illness or treatment for substance abuse within 48 hours after a request for such care, including private and emergency counseling, family and marriage counseling, and suicide prevention. The bill also exempts family members of deceased veterans from certain residency requirements before receiving health care aid from DVA and authorizes DVA, at the determination of the county veterans service officer, to waive income and other financial reporting requirements to receive that aid.

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

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

