

**1999 DRAFTING REQUEST**

**Assembly Amendment (AA-ASA1-AB133)**

Received: 06/18/99

Received By: kenneda

Wanted: As time permits

Identical to LRB:

For: Senate Democratic Caucus 266-2257

By/Representing: Walter

This file may be shown to any legislator: NO

Drafter: kenneda

May Contact:

Alt. Drafters: nelsorp1

Subject: Mental Health - miscellaneous  
Public Assistance - med. assist.

Extra Copies: MGD

**Pre Topic:**

SDC:.....Walter - Caucus No. 2706

**Topic:**

Add funding for field licensing specialist, rather than program assistant, for certification of medical assistance substance abuse and mentl hlth providers

**Instructions:**

See Attached

**Drafting History:**

<u>Vers.</u>	<u>Drafted</u>	<u>Reviewed</u>	<u>Typed</u>	<u>Proofed</u>	<u>Submitted</u>	<u>Jacketed</u>	<u>Required</u>
/?	kenneda 06/24/99			_____			
/1	nelsorp1 06/24/99	wjackson 06/25/99	hhagen 06/25/99	_____	lrb_docadmin 06/25/99		

FE Sent For:

<END>

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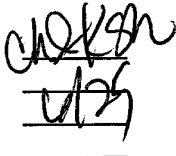
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				_____			

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<END>

yes

*SDC*

**Agency: Health and Family Services - Supportive Living**

*b0775*

caucus number: 2706

duplicate flag:

duplicate with:

Other reference numbers: Paper 552 alt 3

LFB Sum #:

bill number/amendment number:

LRB draft #

LRB P-draft:

description: AODA and Mental Health Program Certification Staff. Adopt alt 3 to Paper 552 which modifies the Gov's recommendation by providing an additional \$21,500 PR in 99-00 and \$25,200 PR in 00-01 to support a field licensing specialist, not a program assistant

other notes:

drafting instructions: Adopt alt 3 to Paper 552 (see above)

more instructions:

*mh treatment certification activities*

Agency: **Health and Family Services - Supportive Living**

Number of Amendments: 1

*20.435(6) (jm)*

CN2706

**Adopt Alternative 3 to Paper 552, which modifies the Governor's recommendation by providing an additional \$21,500 PR in 1999-00 and \$25,200 PR in 2000-01 to support a field licensing specialist, rather than a program assistant.**



## Legislative Fiscal Bureau

One East Main, Suite 301 • Madison, WI 53703 • (608) 266-3847 • Fax: (608) 267-6873

April 22, 1999

Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #552

### **AODA and Mental Health Program Certification Staff (DHFS -- Supportive Living)**

[LFB 1999-01 Budget Summary: Page 329, #10]

#### **CURRENT LAW**

The Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) certifies substance abuse and mental health providers to enable these providers to participate in the medical assistance program. In addition, DHFS approves the credentials of counselors who work for certified programs. DHFS is currently authorized 6.0 PR licensing specialists, 1.0 PR program assistant and 1.0 PR program supervisor to perform this function. The certification unit is also authorized 1.0 PR program assistant to register and certify residential care apartment complexes. The certification program is supported entirely by certification fees assessed to providers. Currently, there are 1,185 facilities with 2,103 separate programs that are certified by the Department.

#### **GOVERNOR**

Provide \$40,400 PR in 1999-00 and \$44,300 PR in 2000-01 to fund: (a) 1.0 PR program assistant position, beginning in 1999-00, to increase AODA and mental health treatment certification activities (\$30,400 PR in 1999-00 and \$34,300 PR in 2000-01); and (b) consumer satisfaction surveys (\$10,000 PR annually). DHFS intends to increase certification fees administratively to increase revenue to support these costs.

#### **DISCUSSION POINTS**

1. DHFS establishes certification fees administratively and providers pay these fees once every two years. The current biennial fees are: (a) \$350 for a provider that operates one AODA or mental health program; (b) \$500 for a provider with two programs; (c) \$600 for a provider with three programs; (d) \$675 for a provider with four programs; and (e) \$750 for a

provider with five or more programs. In addition, DHFS assesses a charge of \$200 per branch office per biennium. These certification fees have not been changed since 1991.

2. The 1995-97 biennial budget act provided the certification unit 2.0 PR additional project positions, beginning in 1995-96. One of the positions was provided to certify AODA and mental health providers, while the second position was provided to register residential care apartment complexes. The 1997-99 biennial budget act converted these project positions to permanent positions.

3. The certification unit is responsible for making statutorily required investigations following deaths in AODA and mental health treatment and residential facilities. In 1997-98, the unit conducted 91 investigations.

4. State statutes require that DHFS conduct quality assurance and client satisfaction activities for AODA and mental health treatment programs. The requested funding for consumer satisfaction surveys would respond to this statutory requirement.

5. The certification unit has had difficulty performing activities necessary to recertify providers every two years. The Department indicates that increased workload for both central office staff and field surveyors has contributed to the problem of recertifying providers in a timely manner. Central office staff are behind in sending renewal notices to providers and field specialists are not able to survey all providers within the two-year cycle. DHFS staff often must extend the existing certification until the renewal notice or survey can be performed. They indicate that these delays have caused some concerns among providers, since they cannot receive MA reimbursement unless they are certified or recertified.

6. The Department has not maintained annual information on the number of certified AODA and mental health programs. However, based on increases in certification fee revenue, it estimates that, during the past several years, the number has increased by approximately 2.5% per year. Between 1993-94 and 1996-97, fee revenues increased at an average annual rate of 2.67%. Fee revenues fell in 1997-98 because of computer problems that prevented the assessment of fees at the end of that year. However, collections in the first half of 1998-99 indicate that revenues are increasing at a rate of 2.5% annually.

7. In May 1998, there were 1,989 AODA and mental health programs. By April, 1999, the number of certified programs grew to 2,103, an increase of 5.7%.

8. If it is assumed that the additional position in 1995-96 provided an adequate staffing level at the beginning of that year, then an annual growth of 2.5% would suggest that the certification unit's workload has increased 10% without any staffing adjustment. By the end of the 1999-01 biennium, it would be 15% higher.

9. Excluding the program assistant that is responsible for registering and certifying residential care complexes, one additional position would represent an increase in staffing of 12.5% while two additional positions would represent an increase of 25%.

10. The comparison of the growth in the number of programs and the percentage increase in staffing suggests that 1.0 PR additional position is needed in the first year of the biennium and that additional staff may be required in the second year.

11. In its 1999-01 budget submission, the Department requested 2.0 PR positions, a program assistant and a licensing certification specialist. The Governor recommended that the program assistant position be approved.

12. If the Committee provided DHFS a licensing certification specialist, rather than a program assistant, DHFS would have greater flexibility, since a licensing specialist could be used for both field surveys and for processing certification applications. However, the Committee would need to provide an additional \$21,500 PR in 1999-00 and \$25,200 PR in 2000-01 to support a licensing certification specialist position, rather than a program assistant position. Further, it may not be an efficient use of professional staff time to conduct work that could be performed by a program assistant position.

13. The Department's workload model indicates a greater staffing deficiency for work in the central office, although it also indicates a deficiency for field licensing staff.

14. If a second position was provided, it could be added in the middle of the second year of the biennium to correspond with projected growth in the number of providers. In addition, this would reduce the amount of the fee increase that would be necessary to support the position in the 1999-01 biennium.

15. The fee increase necessary to support the 1.0 PR program assistant recommended by the Governor is approximately 7.5%, although an additional fee increase of 3% may also be needed to offset higher costs due to inflation. The fee increase needed to support 2.0 PR positions, with the program assistant starting in the first year of the biennium and the licensing specialist starting in the middle of the second year, would be approximately 10%, beginning in the first year of the biennium. To fully support the second position in 2001-03, a further fee increase of 5% would be needed at the beginning of the 2001-02 fiscal year.

16. A cumulative fee increase of 15% by 2001-02 would represent a fee, that if adjusted for inflation would be less than the fee imposed in 1991. Certification fees have not increased since 1991. The Consumer Price Index has increased by a total of 21% since 1991.

#### ALTERNATIVES

1. Approve the Governor's recommendation.
2. Modify the Governor's recommendation by providing an additional \$22,200 PR in 2000-01 to support 1.0 PR licensing specialist position, beginning January 1, 2001.



<u>Alternative 2</u>	<u>PR</u>
1999-01 FUNDING (Change to Bill)	\$22,200
2000-01 POSITIONS (Change to Bill)	1.00

3. Modify the Governor's recommendation by providing an additional \$21,500 PR in 1999-00 and \$25,200 PR in 2000-01 to support a field licensing specialist, rather than a program assistant.

<u>Alternative 3</u>	<u>PR</u>
1999-01 FUNDING (Change to Bill)	\$46,700

4. Maintain current law.

<u>Alternative 4</u>	<u>PR</u>
1999-01 FUNDING (Change to Bill)	-\$84,700
2000-01 POSITIONS (Change to Bill)	- 1.00

Prepared by: Richard Megna



State of Wisconsin  
1999 - 2000 LEGISLATURE

LRBb0775/1  
DAK & RPN...../....  
WLJ

SDC:.....Walter – Caucus No. 2706 Add funding for field licensing specialist,  
rather than program assistant, for certification of medical  
assistance substance abuse and mental health providers

FOR 1999-01 BUDGET — NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

**CAUCUS AMENDMENT**

**TO ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1,**

**TO 1999 ASSEMBLY BILL 133**

1 At the locations indicated, amend the substitute amendment as follows:

2 ↓ 1. Page 203, line 19: increase the dollar amount for fiscal year 1999-00 by  
3 \$21,500 and increase the dollar amount for fiscal year 2000-01 by \$25,200 for the  
4 purpose of funding a field license specialist instead of a program assistant for  
5 certification activities related to mental health treatment providers.

6 (END)



State of Wisconsin  
1999 - 2000 LEGISLATURE

LRBb0775/1  
DAK&RPN:wj:ksh

SDC:.....Walter – Caucus No. 2706 Add funding for field licensing specialist,  
rather than program assistant, for certification of medical  
assistance substance abuse and mentl hlth providers

FOR 1999-01 BUDGET — NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

**CAUCUS AMENDMENT**

**TO ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1,**

**TO 1999 ASSEMBLY BILL 133**

1 At the locations indicated, amend the substitute amendment as follows:

2 1. Page 203, line 19: increase the dollar amount for fiscal year 1999-00 by  
3 \$21,500 and increase the dollar amount for fiscal year 2000-01 by \$25,200 for the  
4 purpose of funding a field license specialist instead of a program assistant for  
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6 (END)