

**DRAFTER'S NOTE
FROM THE
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU**

LRBa1043/1dn
FFK&PJH:kjf:jf

May 17, 2011

Senator Miller:

Please review this amendment to ensure that it is consistent with your intent. Please note that this amendment requires a person to submit an affidavit of indigency. The amendment does not define indigency, and the term is not generally defined in the statutes. Several statutes refer, instead, to the federal poverty line and require a person's gross income to be at or below the poverty line or a certain percent of the poverty line.

See, for example, s. 46.297 (2) (b), which states that a hearing impaired person may be eligible to receive assistance for telecommunication aids if the "adjusted gross income of the person's family is equal to or less than 200% of the poverty line established under 42 USC 9902 (2)." Other statutes use different percents, so if you would like to take that approach to determine what constitutes indigency, we should discuss the exact figures you would like to use.

If you have any questions about this draft or would like to discuss it further, please let me know.

Fern Knepp
Legislative Attorney
Phone: (608) 261-6927
E-mail: fern.knepp@legis.wisconsin.gov