



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2013 Wisconsin Act 195
[2013 Assembly Bill 701]

Opioid Treatment Programs

2013 Wisconsin Act 195 (hereinafter, “the Act”) requires the Department of Health Services (DHS) to create two or three new regional comprehensive opioid treatment programs to provide treatment for opiate addiction in rural and underserved, high-needs areas. Programs created under the Act may not offer methadone treatment. The Act also requires DHS to obtain and review proposals for opioid treatment programs in accordance with its request-for-proposal procedures.

An opioid treatment program created under the Act must do all of the following:

- Offer an assessment to individuals in need of service to determine what type of treatment is needed.
- Transition individuals to a licensed residential program, if that level of treatment is necessary.
- Provide counseling, medication-assisted treatment, including both of the following:
 - Long-acting opioid antagonist and partial agonist medications that have been approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration.
 - Abstinence-based treatment.
- Transition individuals who have completed treatment to county-based or private post-treatment care.

DHS must submit a progress report on the outcomes of the opioid treatment programs created under the Act to the Joint Committee on Finance (JCF) and to the appropriate standing committees of the Legislature. DHS must submit a progress report by April 1, 2106, and then annually thereafter.

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature’s Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.

To fund the opioid treatment programs, the Act provides that DHS may use funds from an appropriation for mental health and substance abuse grants for community programs. DHS must submit one or more requests during the 2013-15 fiscal biennium to JCF to supplement the appropriation for the purpose of paying for the opioid treatment programs. If JCF releases funds for the opioid treatment programs, DHS is prohibited from spending more for the opioid treatment programs than the amount of the supplement.

Effective date: This Act went into effect on April 9, 2014.

Prepared by: Melissa Schmidt, Senior Staff Attorney

May 8, 2014

MS:jb;jal