



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2019 Assembly Bill 120	Assembly Amendment 1
<i>Memo published:</i> June 7, 2019	<i>Contact:</i> Andrea Brauer, Staff Attorney

FUNDING FOR GRANTS TO SHELTER FACILITIES

Currently, the Department of Children and Families (DCF) must allocate \$500,000 from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant in each fiscal year for the Department of Administration (DOA) to make grants to shelter facilities. 2019 Assembly Bill 120 increases the amount that DCF must allocate to \$1,000,000 in each fiscal year.

Assembly Amendment 1 revises the method of providing additional funding. Rather than increasing the scheduled appropriation, the amendment utilizes the procedure available under current law by which the Joint Committee on Finance (JCF) may supplement an appropriation if it finds that funds are not available to accomplish the purpose of an authorized program and it finds that an emergency exists. Under the amendment, if DOA requests amounts from any supplemental funding set aside for the 2019-21 biennium, JCF may approve additional funding for housing program services under s. 20.005 (7) (kg), Stats., without finding that an emergency exists.

OTHER CHANGES TO THE GRANT PROGRAM

The bill makes two additional changes to the grant program, which are not affected by the amendment. First, current law authorizes DOA to award each year up to 10 grants of up to \$50,000 each to shelter facilities. Under the bill, DOA may award any number of annual grants of up to \$75,000 each to shelter facilities. Second, the bill also adds a new provision, which allows shelter facilities to use up to 10% of grant funding for professional development of case managers, including necessary travel expenses.

BILL HISTORY

Representative James introduced 2019 Assembly Bill 120 on March 25, 2019. On May 31, 2019, Representative James offered Assembly Amendment 1. On June 4, 2019, the Assembly Committee on Workforce Development recommended adoption of the amendment on a vote of Ayes, 8; Noes, 4. The committee then recommended passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 12; Noes, 0.

AB:jal