



State of Wisconsin
2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

LRB-1351/P3
EHS:emw&kjf

DOA:.....Bong, BB0228 - Foster care and kinship care rate increase

FOR 2017-2019 BUDGET -- NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

AN ACT ...; **relating to:** the budget.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

CHILDREN

This bill increases the rates that are paid to a foster parent or a kinship care relative (a relative other than a parent) who is providing care and maintenance for a child.

This bill increases the monthly basic maintenance rates that are paid by the state or a county to a foster parent for the care and maintenance of a child by 2.5 percent beginning on January 1, 2018, and by an additional 2.5 percent beginning on January 1, 2019. Beginning on January 1, 2018, the monthly rates are \$238 for a child of any age in a foster home certified to provide level one care and, for a foster home certified to provide higher than level one care, \$394 for a child under five years of age, \$431 for a child 5 to 11 years of age, \$490 for a child 12 to 14 years of age, and \$511 for a child 15 years of age or over. Beginning on January 1, 2019, the monthly rates are \$244 for a child of any age in a foster home certified to provide level one care and, for a foster home certified to provide higher than level one care, \$404 for a child under five years of age, \$442 for a child 5 to 11 years of age, \$502 for a child 12 to 14 years of age, and \$524 for a child 15 years of age or over. Currently, those monthly rates are \$232 for a child of any age in a foster home certified to provide level one care and, for a foster home that is certified to provide higher than level one care, \$384 for a child under five years of age, \$420 for a child 5 to 11 years of age, \$478 for a child 12 to 14 years of age, and \$499 for a child 15 years of age or over.

The bill also increases the monthly basic maintenance rates that are paid by the state or a county to a kinship care relative (a relative other than a parent) who is providing care and maintenance for a child by 2.5 percent beginning on January 1, 2018, and by an additional 2.5 percent on January 1, 2019. Beginning on January 1, 2018, the monthly rate for a child of any age is \$238 and beginning on January 1, 2019, the monthly rate is \$244. Currently, the monthly rate is \$232 for a child of any age.

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

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

SECTION 1. 48.57 (3m) (am) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

48.57 (3m) (am) (intro.) From the appropriations under s. 20.437 (2) (dz), (md), (me), and (s), the department shall reimburse counties having populations of less than 750,000 for payments made under this subsection and shall make payments under this subsection in a county having a population of 750,000 or more. Subject to par. (ap), a county department and, in a county having a population of 750,000 or more, the department shall make payments in the amount of ~~\$226~~ \$238 per month beginning on January 1, ~~2014~~ 2018, and ~~\$232~~ \$244 per month beginning on January 1, ~~2015~~ 2019, to a kinship care relative who is providing care and maintenance for a child if all of the following conditions are met:

SECTION 2. 48.57 (3n) (am) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

48.57 (3n) (am) (intro.) From the appropriations under s. 20.437 (2) (dz), (md), (me), and (s), the department shall reimburse counties having populations of less than 750,000 for payments made under this subsection and shall make payments under this subsection in a county having a population of 750,000 or more. Subject to par. (ap), a county department and, in a county having a population of 750,000 or more, the department shall make monthly payments for each child in the amount of

~~\$226~~ \$238 per month beginning on January 1, 2014 2018, and ~~\$232~~ \$244 per month beginning on January 1, 2015 2019, to a long-term kinship care relative who is providing care and maintenance for that child if all of the following conditions are met:

SECTION 3. 48.62 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

48.62 (4) Monthly payments in foster care shall be provided according to the rates specified in this subsection. Beginning on January 1, 2014 2018, the rates are ~~\$226~~ \$238 for care and maintenance provided for a child of any age by a foster home that is certified to provide level one care, as defined in the rules promulgated under sub. (8) (a) and, for care and maintenance provided by a foster home that is certified to provide care at a level of care that is higher than level one care, ~~\$375~~ \$394 for a child under 5 years of age; ~~\$410~~ \$431 for a child 5 to 11 years of age; ~~\$466~~ \$490 for a child 12 to 14 years of age; and ~~\$487~~ \$511 for a child 15 years of age or over. Beginning on January 1, 2015 2019, the rates are ~~\$232~~ \$244 for care and maintenance provided for a child of any age by a foster home that is certified to provide level one care, as defined in the rules promulgated under sub. (8) (a) and, for care and maintenance provided by a foster home that is certified to provide care at a level of care that is higher than level one care, ~~\$384~~ \$404 for a child under 5 years of age; ~~\$420~~ \$442 for a child 5 to 11 years of age; ~~\$478~~ \$502 for a child 12 to 14 years of age; and ~~\$499~~ \$524 for a child 15 years of age or over. In addition to these grants for basic maintenance, the department, county department, or licensed child welfare agency shall make supplemental payments for foster care to a foster home that is receiving an age-related rate under this subsection that are commensurate with the level of care that the foster home is certified to provide and the needs of the child who

is placed in the foster home according to the rules promulgated by the department under sub. (8) (c).

SECTION 9406. Effective dates; Children and Families.

(1) FOSTER CARE AND KINSHIP CARE RATES. The treatment of sections 48.57 (3m) (am) (intro.) and (3n) (am) (intro.) and 48.62 (4) of the statutes takes effect on January 1, 2018, or on the day after publication, whichever is later.

(END)