



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2005 Wisconsin Act 342
[2005 Assembly Bill 526]

**Action Affecting the Family:
Providing Health Insurance ID
Card to Child's Other Parent**

Current law specifies that when a court orders child support in an action affecting the family, such as a divorce, legal separation, or paternity action, the court is supposed to assign responsibility for, and direct the manner of payment of, the child's health care expenses. The court may require a parent to initiate or continue health insurance coverage for the child.

2005 Wisconsin Act 342 provides that:

1. In an action affecting the family, if a parent is required to provide health insurance coverage for a child, the court must order that parent to provide to the other parent a health insurance identification card for the child.
2. If the parent who is ordered to provide a card fails to do so, the other parent may attempt to obtain a card for the child by presenting the order to the health insurance provider or to the employer providing the health insurance.
3. If that parent is unable to obtain a card in the manner under item 2., the intentional failure by the parent ordered to provide a health insurance identification card to provide a card as ordered constitutes contempt of court punishable under ch. 785, Stats.

Effective Date: Act 342 takes effect on April 29, 2006.

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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.state.wi.us/>.