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## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

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<b>2013 Wisconsin Act 117</b> [2013 Senate Bill 475]	<b>BadgerCare Plus Changes</b>
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2013 Wisconsin Act 117 modified Medical Assistance (MA) program eligibility standards, so that certain changes under Acts 20 and 116, which were to take effect on April 1, 2014, instead took effect on **February 1, 2014**. These changes include the following provisions, among others:

- Certain BadgerCare Plus enrollees receiving health care coverage under the benchmark plan, as specified in the Act, were scheduled to begin receiving coverage under the standard plan on April 1, 2014. Under Act 117, coverage under the standard plan began February 1, 2014.
- The Department of Health Services (DHS) was directed to use a different method of counting income in certain cases, including when calculating “family income” for purposes of BadgerCare Plus eligibility, beginning on April 1, 2014. Act 117 directed the DHS to begin using the new method for these calculations on February 1, 2014.
- Parents and caretaker relatives of children under age 19 with incomes between 100% and 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL) were scheduled to no longer be eligible for MA coverage beginning on April 1, 2014. Under Act 117, the effective date for this change became February 1, 2014. However, parents and caretakers whose incomes do not exceed 200% of the FPL, who obtain eligibility before February 1, 2014, are allowed to retain their coverage through March 31, 2014.

*Effective date:* January 18, 2014.

*Prepared by:* Brian Larson, Staff Attorney

March 19, 2014

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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.wisconsin.gov>.