LRB-4843/1 DAK:kmg:pg

2001 SENATE BILL 429

February 7, 2002 - Introduced by Senator ROBSON. Referred to Committee on Health, Utilities, Veterans and Military Affairs.

AN ACT to amend 49.686 (2) and 49.686 (3) (f) of the statutes; relating to:

expanding eligibility for drug treatment reimbursement grants for persons

with HIV infections.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, for certain eligible persons the department of health and family services (DHFS) provides reimbursement or supplements reimbursement for prescription drugs for the treatment of infections of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS). The funding for the reimbursement is from general purpose revenues, from federal moneys, and from revenue received as rebates from pharmaceutical companies that sell prescription drugs for the treatment of HIV and AIDS. To be eligible, among other things, a person must have an HIV infection; must have applied and been denied eligibility for medical assistance within 12 months of applying for the drug reimbursement program; must have no or inadequate insurance coverage for the drug; and must have an annual gross household income of no more than 200% of the federal poverty line.

This bill expands eligibility for reimbursement or reimbursement supplements for prescription drugs for the treatment of HIV infections and AIDS to include persons whose annual gross household incomes are above 200% but no more than 300% of the federal poverty line. Under the bill, reimbursement or a reimbursement supplement may be provided to these persons from federal funding or revenue from rebates from pharmaceutical companies, if the funding or revenue is available.

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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. 49.686 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

49.686 (2) REIMBURSEMENT. From the appropriation appropriations under s. 20.435 (1) (m) and (5) (am) and (i), the department may reimburse or supplement the reimbursement of the cost of AZT, the drug pentamidine, and any drug approved for reimbursement under sub. (4) (c) for an individual who is eligible under sub. (3).

Section 2. 49.686 (3) (f) of the statutes is amended to read:

49.686 **(3)** (f) Is an individual whose annual gross household income is at or below 200% of the poverty line and, if funding is available under s. 20.435 (1) (m) or (5) (i), is an individual whose annual gross household income is above 200% and at or below 300% of the poverty line.

11 (END)