2003 ASSEMBLY BILL 646

November 10, 2003 – Introduced by Representatives Musser, F. Lasee, Townsend, Gronemus, Pettis, Gundrum, Hahn, Krawczyk, Olsen, Gunderson, Albers and Grothman, cosponsored by Senators Reynolds and Schultz. Referred to Committee on Children and Families.

AN ACT *to create* 946.71 of the statutes; **relating to:** giving false information to mandatory reporters of suspected child abuse or neglect and providing a penalty.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, physicians, social workers, teachers, and other specified persons must report cases of suspected child abuse or neglect regarding a child seen in the course of professional duties. This bill prohibits a person from knowingly making a false statement alleging that a child has been abused or neglected to a person who is required to report child abuse or neglect. A person who violates this prohibition may be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned for not more than 90 days or both.

Because this bill creates a new crime or revises a penalty for an existing crime, the Joint Review Committee on Criminal Penalties may be requested to prepare a report concerning the proposed penalty and the costs or savings that are likely to result if the bill is enacted.

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:

ASSEMBLY BILL 646

1	SECTION 1. 946.71 of the statutes is created to read:
2	946.71 Giving false information regarding child abuse or neglect to
3	mandated reporter. (1) In this section:
4	(a) "Abuse" has the meaning given in s. 48.02 (1).
5	(b) "Neglect" has the meaning given in s. $48.981(1)(d)$.
6	(2) Whoever knowingly makes a false statement alleging that a child has been
7	abused or neglected to a person who is required to report under s. 48.981 (2) is guilty
8	of a Class B misdemeanor.
9	(FND)