



State of Wisconsin
2019 - 2020 LEGISLATURE

LRB-5497/1
TJD:amn

2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 977

March 2, 2020 - Introduced by Representatives LOUDENBECK, HORLACHER, CONSIDINE, DITTRICH, EMERSON, KOLSTE, RODRIGUEZ and SUBECK, cosponsored by Senator BEWLEY. Referred to Committee on Health.

1 **AN ACT** *to renumber and amend* 250.15 (1); and *to create* 250.15 (1) (b) and
2 250.15 (2) (d) of the statutes; **relating to:** funding for free and charitable
3 clinics.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill defines “free and charitable clinics” as health care organizations that use a volunteer and staff model to provide health services to uninsured, underinsured, underserved, economically and socially disadvantaged, and vulnerable populations and that meet criteria specified in the bill. The bill incorporates into statutory language an allocation made in the biennial budget act, 2019 Wisconsin Act 9, that requires the Department of Health Services to give \$500,000 in grants annually to free and charitable clinics.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** 250.15 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 250.15 (1) (intro.) and
5 amended to read:
6 250.15 (1) ~~DEFINITION~~ DEFINITIONS. (intro.) In this section, “community:

ASSEMBLY BILL 977**SECTION 1**

1 (a) “Community health center” means a health care entity that provides
2 primary health care, health education and social services to low-income individuals.

3 **SECTION 2.** 250.15 (1) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

4 250.15 (1) (b) “Free and charitable clinics” means health care organizations
5 that use a volunteer and staff model to provide health services to uninsured,
6 underinsured, underserved, economically and socially disadvantaged, and
7 vulnerable populations and that meet all of the following criteria:

8 1. The organizations are nonprofit and tax exempt or are a part of a larger
9 nonprofit, tax-exempt organization.

10 2. The organizations are located in this state or serve residents in this state.

11 3. The organizations restrict eligibility to receive services to individuals who
12 are uninsured, underinsured, or have limited or no access to primary, specialty, or
13 prescription care.

14 4. The organizations provide one or more of the following services:

15 a. Medical care.

16 b. Mental health care.

17 c. Dental care.

18 d. Prescription medications.

19 5. The organizations use volunteer health care professionals, nonclinical
20 volunteers, and partnerships with other health care providers to provide the services
21 under subd. 4.

22 6. The organizations are not federally qualified health centers as defined in 42
23 USC 1396d (1) (2) and do not receive reimbursement from the federal centers for
24 medicare and medicaid services under a federally qualified health center payment
25 methodology.

