



2007 SENATE BILL 573

March 13, 2008 - Introduced by Senators LASSA and DARLING, cosponsored by Representatives MASON, SINICKI, A. WILLIAMS and ZEPNICK. Referred to Committee on Health, Human Services, Insurance, and Job Creation.

- 1 **AN ACT to create** 49.45 (54) of the statutes; **relating to:** dental services managed
2 care pilot program under the Medical Assistance program.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Currently, the Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) administers the Medical Assistance (MA) program, which provides health care benefits for certain low-income individuals. This bill requires DHFS to establish a pilot project to provide dental services to MA recipients under a managed care system. The bill requires DHFS to identify 15 to 25 counties, from a federal listing of counties with health professional shortage areas for dental care, as the pilot area. Under the bill, DHFS must contract with an entity to provide dental services, for a capitated monthly payment, to MA recipients who are pregnant or under 21 years of age and who reside in the pilot area. The entity must have a network of dentists who serve the pilot area, and must allow each MA recipient in the pilot area who is pregnant or under 21 years of age to select any dentist in the entity's network. The entity must pay dentists in its network the same rate for serving an MA recipient who is pregnant or under age 21 as for providing the same services to an individual who is not an MA recipient. The bill ends the requirement that DHFS administer the pilot project on January 1, 2014.

For further information see the *state* 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:

SENATE BILL 573**SECTION 1**

1 **SECTION 1.** 49.45 (54) of the statutes is created to read:

2 49.45 (54) DENTAL MANAGED CARE PILOT. (a) The department shall contract with
3 an entity to provide, for a monthly capitated rate, dental services under sub. (2) (b)
4 1. to all recipients of medical assistance who reside in the pilot area under par. (b)
5 and are pregnant or under 21 years of age.

6 (b) The department shall identify 15 to 25 counties, including Milwaukee
7 County, from the list of Wisconsin counties with health professional shortage areas
8 for dental care, compiled by the health resources and services administration of the
9 federal department of health and human services. The counties identified by the
10 department shall be the pilot area under this subsection.

11 (c) The entity with which the department contracts under this subsection shall
12 satisfy all of the following conditions:

13 1. The entity shall have an agreement with more than one dentist in each
14 county in the pilot area under par. (b) to participate in the entity's network of
15 dentists.

16 2. The entity shall allow each medical assistance recipient who is pregnant or
17 under 21 years of age and is a resident of a county in the pilot area under par. (b) to
18 obtain dental services from any dentist who participates in the entity's network of
19 dentists.

20 3. The reimbursement rates that the entity pays a dentist in its network for
21 providing dental services under sub. (2) (b) 1. to a medical assistance recipient who
22 is pregnant or under 21 years of age and resides in the pilot area shall be the same
23 as the rates that the entity pays a dentist in its network to provide the same services
24 to an individual who is not a medical assistance recipient.

