



2009 ASSEMBLY BILL 966

April 20, 2010 – Introduced by Representative SHERIDAN. Referred to Committee on Health and Healthcare Reform.

1 **AN ACT** *to repeal* 49.471 (4) (d) 3. and 49.471 (4) (d) 4.; *to renumber* 49.471 (4)
2 (d) 1. and 49.471 (4) (d) 2.; *to amend* 49.471 (4) (d) (intro.); and *to create* 49.471
3 (4) (d) 2m. of the statutes; **relating to:** coverage under BadgerCare Plus for
4 former employees of Allied Systems, Ltd.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

BadgerCare Plus (BC+) is a Medical Assistance (MA) program, administered by the Department of Health Services, that provides health care benefits under two different plans, depending on the basis for a recipient's eligibility, to recipients who satisfy financial and nonfinancial eligibility criteria. The first plan provides the same benefits that are provided under regular MA. The second plan, called the Benchmark Plan, provides specified benefits, including, but not limited to, coverage for prescription drugs; physicians' services; inpatient and outpatient hospital services; home health services; physical, occupational, and speech therapy; treatment for nervous and mental disorders and alcoholism and other drug abuse problems; durable medical equipment; and transportation to obtain emergency medical care. Individuals eligible for BC+ benefits under the Benchmark Plan include, among others, a pregnant woman whose family income exceeds 200 percent, but does not exceed 300 percent, of poverty; any child whose family income exceeds 200 percent, but does not exceed 300 percent, of poverty; and an individual whose family income does not exceed 200 percent of poverty and who is the parent or caretaker relative of a child who is, generally, living in the home of the parent or caretaker relative. In addition, some individuals may purchase coverage under the

ASSEMBLY BILL 966

Benchmark Plan at the full per member per month cost of the coverage. These individuals include: 1) any child whose family income exceeds 300 percent of poverty and 2) any individual (who may purchase coverage for his or her spouse and dependent children, also) who is under age 65, who lost his or her employer-sponsored health care coverage as a result of his or her former employer's bankruptcy, and who, after losing his or her employer-sponsored health care coverage, received health care coverage through a voluntary employment benefit association established before August 2006. This bill makes another group of individuals eligible to purchase coverage for himself or herself and his or her spouse and dependent children under the Benchmark Plan at the full per member per month cost of the coverage. The individual must be under age 65; must be an employee or a former employee of Allied Systems, Ltd., (Allied) in Janesville; must have been receiving health care coverage through Allied immediately before July 1, 2010; will lose that coverage on July 1, 2010, due to the closing of Allied; and is not eligible for any other employer-sponsored health care coverage.

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:

1 **SECTION 1.** 49.471 (4) (d) (intro.) of the statutes, as created by 2009 Wisconsin
2 Act 28, is amended to read:

3 49.471 (4) (d) (intro.) An individual who is not otherwise eligible for coverage
4 under this section and who is under 65 years of age is eligible to purchase coverage
5 of the benefits described in sub. (11) for himself or herself and for his or her spouse
6 and dependent children, at the full per member per month cost of coverage, if all of
7 ~~the following apply~~ the individual satisfies all of the requirements under subd. 1. or
8 2m.:

9 **SECTION 2.** 49.471 (4) (d) 1. of the statutes, as created by 2009 Wisconsin Act
10 28, is renumbered 49.471 (4) (d) 1. a.

11 **SECTION 3.** 49.471 (4) (d) 2. of the statutes, as created by 2009 Wisconsin Act
12 28, is renumbered 49.471 (4) (d) 1. b.

13 **SECTION 4.** 49.471 (4) (d) 2m. of the statutes is created to read:

