



2007 SENATE BILL 505

February 19, 2008 – Introduced by Senators LASSA, ERPENBACH, HANSEN, HARSDORF, MILLER, ROBSON, ROESSLER and SCHULTZ, cosponsored by Representatives BALLWEG, ALBERS, BERCEAU, DAVIS, GRIGSBY, JESKEWITZ, MOLEPSKE, SEIDEL, SHERIDAN, SINICKI, TOWNSEND, A. WILLIAMS and ZEPNICK. Referred to Committee on Tax Fairness and Family Prosperity.

1 **AN ACT to create** 20.437 (2) (fr), 49.265 (3) (b) 11. and 49.265 (4) (cm) of the
2 **statutes; relating to:** grants to community action agencies for skills
3 enhancement programs and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a community action agency approved by the secretary of health and family services and by the legislative body of the local governmental unit serviced by the community action agency is required to develop and implement programs designed to serve persons whose income is at or below 125 percent of the poverty line. Those programs may include provisions that will help those persons, among other things, secure and retain employment, improve their education, and secure needed transportation.

This bill appropriates \$250,000 in fiscal year 2008–09 to the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and requires DCF to distribute, from that appropriation, grants to community action agencies to provide, to individuals who work at least 20 hours per week and whose earned income is at or below 150 percent of the poverty line, a program of skills enhancement that must include access to transportation, child care, career counseling, job placement assistance, and financial support for education and training.

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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:

1 **SECTION 1.** 20.005 (3) (schedule) of the statutes: at the appropriate place, insert
 2 the following amounts for the purposes indicated:

	2007-08	2008-09
3		
4 20.437 Children and families, department of		
5 (2) ECONOMIC SUPPORT		
6 (fr) Skills enhancement grants GPR A -0-		250,000

7 **SECTION 2.** 20.437 (2) (fr) of the statutes is created to read:
 8 20.437 (2) (fr) *Skills enhancement grants*. The amounts in the schedule to
 9 provide skills enhancement grants under s. 49.265 (4) (cm).

10 **SECTION 3.** 49.265 (3) (b) 11. of the statutes is created to read:
 11 49.265 (3) (b) 11. Provide, to individuals who work at least 20 hours per week
 12 and whose earned income is at or below 150 percent of the poverty line, a program
 13 of skills enhancement that shall include access to transportation, child care, career
 14 counseling, job placement assistance, and financial support for education and
 15 training.

16 **SECTION 4.** 49.265 (4) (cm) of the statutes is created to read:
 17 49.265 (4) (cm) From the appropriation under s. 20.437 (2) (fr), the department
 18 of children and families shall distribute grants to community action agencies to
 19 provide the skills enhancement services specified under sub. (3) (b) 11.

20 **SECTION 2. Effective date.**

