



1995 ASSEMBLY BILL 259

March 23, 1995 - Introduced by Representatives HUEBSCH, GARD, HAHN, OURADA, FREESE, GROTHMAN, WARD, PORTER, RYBA, LADWIG, AINSWORTH, MUSSER, GOETSCH, GREEN, KREIBICH, SILBAUGH, JENSEN, ALBERS, OLSEN, KLUSMAN and SKINDRUD, cosponsored by Senators PETAK, RUDE and SCHULTZ. Referred to Committee on Welfare Reform.

1 **AN ACT to repeal** 46.98 (2r) (cg), 46.98 (2r) (cm), 46.98 (4) (c) 2., 46.98 (4) (c) 2m.,
2 46.98 (4) (c) 3. and 46.98 (4) (c) 4.; **to renumber and amend** 46.98 (4) (c)
3 (intro.); and **to amend** 46.98 (2r) (c) of the statutes; **relating to:** priorities for
4 at-risk and low-income child care funds.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the department of health and social services (DHSS) distributes general purpose revenues, as community aids, and federal child care grant moneys to counties for child care services for parents who need child care to be able to work, who are not receiving aid to families with dependent children (AFDC) and who are at risk of becoming eligible for AFDC, which is defined as having a family income that is equal to or less than 75% of the state median income (at-risk child care). Currently, if the at-risk child care funds distributed to a county are insufficient to meet the needs of all eligible parents, the county must distribute those funds according to the following order of priority: 1) parents who are working and who have been recipients of AFDC within the last 12 months (transitional child care); 2) parents who are working and who have been recipients of AFDC, but not within the last 12 months (post-transitional child care); and 3) participants in the new hope project. This bill eliminates the order of priority for at-risk child care funds and provides instead that if the at-risk child care funds distributed to a county are insufficient to meet the needs of all eligible parents, the county must expend those funds in a manner determined by the county board that will best meet the child care needs of the eligible parents of the county.

Under current law, DHSS distributes general purpose revenues, as community aids, and federal child care and development block grant moneys to counties for child care services for parents who are gainfully employed and who need child care services (low-income child care). Currently, if the low-income child care funds distributed to a county are insufficient to meet the needs of all eligible parents, the

county must distribute those funds according to the following order of priorities: 1) to a parent who is under the age of 20 and who needs child care in order to go to school; 2) to a parent who is gainfully employed and who is receiving AFDC; 3) to parents who are eligible for transitional child care; and 4) to parents who are eligible for post-transitional child care. This bill eliminates the order of priority for low-income child care funds and provides instead that if the low-income child care funds distributed to a county are insufficient to meet the needs of all eligible parents, the county must expend those funds in a manner determined by the county board that will best meet the child care needs of the eligible parents of the county.

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.** 46.98 (2r) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 46.98 **(2r)** (c) If funds distributed under sub. (2) for at-risk child care are
3 insufficient to meet the needs of all eligible parents, a county shall ~~give first priority~~
4 ~~to parents who are working and who have been recipients of aid under s. 49.19 within~~
5 ~~the last 12 months~~ expend those funds in a manner determined by the county board
6 that will best meet the child care needs of the eligible parents of the county.

7 **SECTION 2.** 46.98 (2r) (cg) of the statutes is repealed.

8 **SECTION 3.** 46.98 (2r) (cm) of the statutes is repealed.

9 **SECTION 4.** 46.98 (4) (c) (intro.) of the statutes is renumbered 46.98 (4) (c) and
10 amended to read:

11 46.98 **(4)** (c) (intro.) If funds distributed under sub. (2) are insufficient to meet
12 the needs of all eligible parents, a county shall: expend those funds in a manner
13 determined by the county board that will best meet the child care needs of the eligible
14 parents of the county.

15 **SECTION 5.** 46.98 (4) (c) 2. of the statutes is repealed.

16 **SECTION 6.** 46.98 (4) (c) 2m. of the statutes is repealed.

