

DRAFTER'S NOTE
FROM THE
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

LRB-2389/1dn
DAK:cmh:hmh

April 22, 1999

To Representative Wasserman:

1. Because s. 16.47 (2), stats., prohibits each house of the legislature from passing a bill that contains an appropriation of more than \$10,000, except for emergency appropriations bills, until the budget bill has passed both houses, I have created an effective date for this bill that is July 1, 1999, or the day after enactment of the budget bill, whichever is later. Okay?

2. Please note that the funding is to be provided only for infants who are not eligible for medical assistance or badger care (the benefits under badger care are identical to those under medical assistance, which covers hearing screening) and for whom coverage is not provided under a disability insurance policy or a self-insured health plan. Okay?

3. The Massachusetts act on which this bill is based refers to birthing centers, in addition to hospitals, as sites for performance of hearing screening tests; in particular, the act requires a birthing center that does not have the hearing screening test equipment or ability to perform the test to refer the infant to a hospital or birthing center approved by the department to perform the tests. In Wisconsin, birthing centers are not statutorily recognized. I do not know if there are any birthing centers that are not directly associated with hospitals in the state (there are none listed in the Madison telephone book yellow pages). In order to refer to birthing centers, I would need a definition of such a place. At this point, I thought it best to provide you with the draft, to allow you to review it and decide if you wanted to add this element.

If I can assist you further with this draft, please do not hesitate to call.

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