1999 DRAFTING REQUEST

Bill

Received: 02/21/2000				Received By: isagerro					
Wanted: As time permits					Identical to LRB:				
For: Jo	n Richards (60	8) 266-0650			By/Representing: Tara Vasby				
This file may be shown to any legislator: NO May Contact:					Drafter: isagerro				
					Alt. Drafters:				
Subject	: Public A	Assistance - Wi	s works		Extra Copies:				
Pre To	ppic:								
No spec	cific pre topic gi	ven							
Topic:									
Domest	tic violence trair	ning and procedu	ures under '	W-2					
Instruc	ctions:								
See Att	ached								
Draftii	ng History:								
Vers.	<u>Drafted</u>	Reviewed	Typed	Proofed	<u>Submitted</u>	<u>Jacketed</u>	Required		
/1	isagerro 02/25/2000	gilfokm 02/28/2000	hhagen 02/29/20	00	lrb_docadmin 02/29/2000	lrb_docadn 03/21/2000			
FE Sen	t For:	O		<end></end>					

1999 DRAFTING REQUEST

Bill

Receive	ed: 02/21/2000				Received By: isa	gerro		
Wanted: As time permits					Identical to LRB:			
For: Jo i	n Richards (60	8) 266-0650	By/Representing: Tara Vasby					
This file may be shown to any legislator: NO					Drafter: isagerro			
May Contact:					Alt. Drafters:			
Subject:	Public A	Assistance - Wi	is works		Extra Copies:			
Pre To	pic:							
No spec	ific pre topic gi	ven						
Topic:								
Domest	ic violence trair	ning and proced	ures under \	W-2				
Instruc	tions:							
See Atta	ached							
Draftin	g History:							
Vers.	<u>Drafted</u>	Reviewed	Typed	Proofed	Submitted	<u>Jacketed</u>	<u>Reauired</u>	
/1	isagerro 02/25/2000	gilfokm 02/28/2000	hhagen 02/29/20 0	00	lrb_docadmin 02/29/2000		S&L	
FE Sent	For:			<end></end>				

1999 DRAFTING REQUEST

-	•	-	п
.,	-		

Received: 02/21/2000	Received By: isagerro				
Wanted: As time permits	Identical to LRB:	Identical to LRB: By/Representing: Tara Vasby			
For: Jon Richards (608) 266-0650	By/Representing: Tara Vasby				
This file may be shown to any legislator: NO	Drafter: isagerro	Drafter: isagerro			
May Contact:	Alt. Drafters:	Alt. Drafters:			
Subject: Public Assistance - Wis works	Extra Copies:				
Pre Topic:					
No specific pre topic given					
Topic:					
Domestic violence training and procedures under	V-2				
Instructions:					
See Attached					
Drafting History:					
<u>Vers.</u> <u>Drafted</u> <u>Reviewed</u> <u>Typed</u>	<u>Proofed</u> <u>Submitted</u> <u>Jacketed</u> <u>Requi</u>	<u>red</u>			
1? isagerro /1 -2-18-2009 Kmg					
FE Sent For:	<end></end>				

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

JON RICHARDS

REPRESENTING MILWAUKEE'S · **EASTSIDE, DOWNTOWN AND BAY VIEW NEIGHBORHOODS**

February 21, 2000

TO: Ivy Sager-Rosenthal

FROM: Rep. Jon Richards

RE: Info for bill draft

Ivy,

As I mentioned to you on the phone, Rep. Richards would like a bill drafted based on the following information that was provided by The Institute for Wisconsin's Future. He outlines the four points he would like addressed in the attached e-mail that he sent to me.

If you need any more info, feel free to call me or Rep. Richards

Thanks!

Tara J. Vasby Legislative Assistant

Rep. Jon Richards

From: Richards, Jon

Sent:

Tuesday, February 15, 2000 5:56 PM

Vasby, Tara To:

W2 recipients and domestic abuse. **Subject:**

Tara-

A couple of months ago we received a report authored by our constituent Vicky Selkow of The Institute for Wisconsin's Future addressing domestic violence as a barrier to self-suffiency under W2. This looks like abuse is a serious problem with W2 recipients. That report lists a number of recommendations.

- W2 caseworkers must be trained on the safety and confidentiality issues associated wit domestic violence.
- A standardized assessment mechanism for applicants should be developed to 3 consitently identify abuse.
- All W2 applicants must be provided with information detailing the possible benefits of selfdisclosure as well as the support services and program options available to abuse victims.
- Domestic violence victims must be informed of the option to not comply with child support enforcement rules if doing so would put the woman or her children at risk of continued violence.

Could you get a bill drafted that brings about required changes to implement these recommendations? Thanks.

Jon

+ Food Hamp program - 49 124(1g) *W-2 -49.145(2)(4)1.b. *MA - 49.45(19)(a) *A9.22(2m)

amaning + 4H

To: Rep. Jon Richard Spages)

Domestic Violence Victims in Transition from Welfare to Work

Barriers to Self-Sufficiency and the W-2 Response

Summary Version

By homas Moore, Ph.D. and Vicky Selkowe

September, 1999

THE INSTITUTE FOR WISCONSIN'S FUTURE Domestic Violence Victims in Transition from Welfare to, Work: Barriers to Self-Sufficiency and the W-2 Response

RATIONALE AND METHODOLOGY

Historically, many victims of domestic violence have utilized the welfare system as an economic support mechanism when leaving violent relationships. Recent national and state legislation has established welfare-replacement programs with strict time limits, work requirements and rules mandating that women cooperate with state efforts to collect child support from fathers. Domestic violence advocates in Wisconsin have expressed concern about the potential inability of abused women to comply with the work requirements of Wisconsin Works (W-2), and about the capacity of W-2 to effectively identify, support and protect victims so they can successfully move from welfare to work.

The Institute for Wisdonsin's Future (IWF), in conjunction with statewide advocacy groups, has completed a survey of domestic violence victims to determine:

- The extent to which domestic abuse impacts women's capacity to maintain employment and complete needed education and training programs.
- 2) How Wisconsin Works (W-2) responds to the highly vulnerable population of battered women making a transition from welfare to work.

During the fall of 1998, 274 surveys were completed by victims of domestic violence around the state. Respondents were primarily single mothers. Three-quarters had a high school diploma or less. More than 90% had received AFDC at some time, and 61% had been or were currently enrolled in W-2.

Major Findings

I. Domestic violence has a severe negative impact on low-income women's ability to maintain jobs and to succeed at education and training efforts.

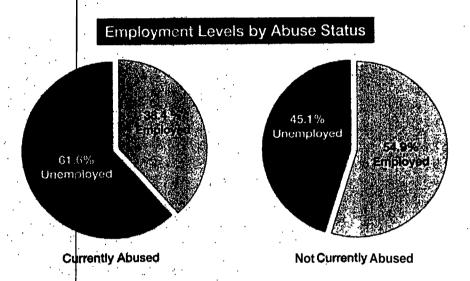
Approximately 30% of respondents report they were fired or lost a job because of domestic abuse, and 35% report that the abuse hurt their education and training efforts, More than half (57.8%) of women surveyed indicate that they were threatened to the point where they were afraid to go to school or work. Respondents also detailed specific behaviors on the part of abusers that have clear and dramatic effects on the women's ability to find and maintain employment or achieve self-sufficiency.

TYPE OF ABUSE Abuser kept respondent from sleeping Respondent was threatened to the point that she was afraid to go to work or school Abuser refused child care at last minute Abuser called respondent 'at work repeatedly Abuser refused transportation to work at last minute Respondent was beaten so she could not work NUMBER 207 84.5 137 57.8 47.1 47.1 Abuser refused transportation to work at last minute 82 34.0 Respondent was beaten so she could not work 207 84.5 34.5 33.9	Table 1: Prevalence of Abuse That Negatively Impacts Employment and Education Efforts				
Respondent was threatened to the point that she was afraid to go to work or school Abuser refused child care at last minute Abuser called respondent 'at work repeatedly Abuser refused transportation to work at last minute 137 47.19 47.19 402 41.50 434.09	ENT				
to go to work or school 137 57.8 Abuser refused child care at last minute 112 47.1 Abuser called respondent 'at work repeatedly 102 41.5 Abuser refused transportation to work at last minute 82 34.0	6				
Abuser called respondent 'at work repeatedly 102 41.5 Abuser refused transportation to work at last minute 82 34.0	%				
Abuser refused transportation to work at last minute 82 34.0	6				
	6				
Respondent was beaten so she could not work a2 33.9	6				
	6				
Respondent is afraid former partner will return and harass her if the state attempts to collect child support from him 61 26.80	6				
Abuser forces respondent to do illegal things 49 20.99	6				

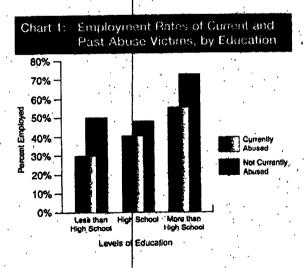
Domestic Violence Victims in Transition from Welfare to Work: Barriers to Self-Sufficiency and the W-2 Response

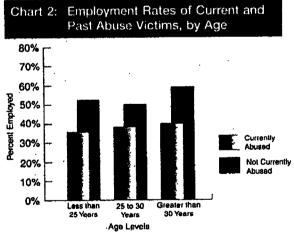
II. Women who are currently being abused are less likely to be employed than are women who were abused in the past, regardless of education level or age.

Employment rates of women who had been abused in the past were considerably higher (54.9%) than those of women who were currently being abused (38.4%). All victims of domestic violence suffer physically and emotionally in ways that could affect their ability to work, even after they have left an abusive relationship. However, women currently in abusive situations face daily disruptions that prevent stable participation in the work force or education programs.



This difference in employment rates is consistent regardless of education level or age.

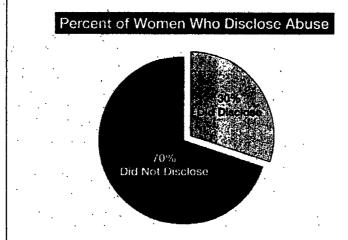




Domestic Violence Victims in Transition from Welfare to Work: Barriers to Self-Sufficiency and the W-2 Response

III. 'Victims of domestic violence are being overlooked under W-2.

Findings show that voluntary disclosure, currently the only W-2 mechanism for identifying victims of abuse, is ineffective since the vast majority (nearly 70%) of W-2 participants surveyed did not disclose that they were or had been victims of domestic violence to W-2 agencies. Because W-2 lacks a systematic method to screen for abuse among W-2 applicants and participants, agency caseworkers (FEPs) are generally unable to, identify this population and therefore are prevented from developing accurate assessments of participants' job readiness and need for other available support services.



IV. When W-2 participants do disclose domestic violence, W-2 caseworkers frequently fail to 'advise the women of available support services, program options or exemptions from certain regulations.

W-2 has' several provisions to address the needs of domestic violence victims, yet approximately 75% of the respondents who disclosed 'abuse were not informed of available counseling, housing funds, or information on the use of W-2 work hours to seek help. Only 4.9% of those who disclosed that they had been victims of' domestic abuse were told that they might have good cause for non-cooperation with child support enforcement rules if it would put themselves or their children at risk of violence. The failure of W-2 staff to inform women of this option is particularly disturbing, since more than one-fourth of respondents reported being afraid that a former partner would return and harass them if the state attempted to collect child support.

Agency Response to Domestic Abuse Disclosure	Percent
Referred participant to counseling	26.8%
Asked participant for proof of abuse	19.5%
Toldparticipant1lunds were available if she was homeless because of abuse	14.6%
Informed participant that part of weekly W-2 activity hours could be used to	
get help for abuse	7.3%
Told participant that child support enforcement rules might be waived	4.9%

THE INSTITUTE IF OR WISCONSIN'S FUTURE

Domestic Violence Victims in Transition from Welfare to Work: Barriers to Self-Sufficiency and the W-2 Response

RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to address the issues raised in this report and to ensure that domestic abuse victims are positioned to achieve self-sufficiency, IWF, the Task Force on Domestic Violence, the Milwaukee Commission on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, and the Access Committee of the Governor's Council on Domestic Abuse recommend the following improvements to W-2:

- Caseworker training: Caseworkers must be trained on the safety and confidentiality issues as a lated with domestic violence.
- ❖ Assessment tools: A standardized assessment mechanism for applicants should be developed to consistently identify a b u s e.
- Universal ndification of program, options: Ail applicants must be provided with information detailing the possible benefits of self-disclosure as well as the support services and program options available to abuse victims.
- Clarification of "good cause" exemptions: Domestic violence victims must be informed of the option to not comply with child support enforcement rules if doing so would put the woman or her children at risk of continued violence.
- Partnerships: Demestic violence advocacy and service groups must be partners in developing and reviewing W-2 procedures that specifically impact their client group.

CONCLUSION

This report documents the destructive role domestic violence plays in preventing low-income women from maintaining employment or securing skills through education and training programs. The data indicates that the W-2 system, as, courrently designed and implemented, can not adequately identify the vast majority of abuse victims. Moreover, once victims of domestic violence are identified, the W-2 program is not consistently providing these women with available support services or safety provisions needed by such a vulnerable population

Women coping with> siturations of physical abuse struggle daily to create and maintain safe lives for themselves and their children. The additional task of securing the skills and education necessary for steady employment and long-term self-sufficiency is daunting. For W-2 to succeed in helping this vulnerable population make such a challenging the sition, several systemic changes are required. The changes (see "Recommendations") are neither major, nor do they have significant financial implications, but they could spell the difference between prolonged poverty and a stable life for thousands of Wisconsin women and children.

		. , _ * = ±
		; ;

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This study was funded by the Joyce Foundation of Chicago. The survey instrument was designed by fWF in collaboration with the Task Force on Domestic Violence, the Milwaukee Commission on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, and, the Access Committee of the Governor's Council on Domestic Abuse. These advocacy groups assisted in developing the report's policy recommendations. We wish also to express our thanks to Pa Vang, fWF intern, for her work in building these collaborations and assistance in designing the survey instrument.

The Institute for Wisconsin's Future is a statewide policy research and community education center. IWF was established in 1994 by a coalition of concerned academics, community and religious leaders, labor organizations and business professionals to produce and disseminate analysis of key public policy issues to assist citizens in making informed public policy decisions.

THE INSTITUTE FOR WISCONSIN'S FUTURE

1717 S. 12th Street • #203 Milwaukee, WI 53204-3300 414-384-9094 fax: 414-384-9098 email: iwf@execpc.com

web: www.execpc.com/~iwf



1

8

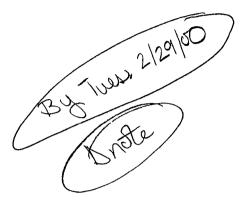
9

10

State of Misconsin 1999 - 2000 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4590/1 ISR: M.9

1999 BILL



AN ACT ...; relating to: providing information on domestic abuse programs,

services and options that are available under the Wisconsin works program to Wisconsin works applicants and participants raining employes of Wisconsin works agencies on issues of domestic abuse developing a standardized assessment mechanism for the identification of Wisconsin works program applicants and participants who are victims of domestic abuse and specifying that certain individuals are exempt from cooperating with efforts to establish a child's paternity or obtain certain support payments or property if such cooperation would pose a risk of emotional or physical harm to the participant or the participant's child.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the department of workforce development (DWD) contracts with public and private agencies to administer the Wisconsin works (W-2) program. This program provides cash benefits and services, such as monthly cash grants, job search assistance and counseling, to eligible individuals.

Federal law requires -individual who receives assistance under the food stamp program, the medical assistance program or any program funded at least

BILL

moneys to

for populating

in part with block grant monies received under the federal temporary assistance for needy families (TANF) program cooperate with efforts to establish the paternity of the individual's child or to collect child support and other support or property the individual or the individual's child is entitled to receive. Federal law does not require this cooperation if the individual has good cause from the cooperate, as determined by a state agency. Thus, to satisfy the federal law requirement, current state law requires an individual, as a condition of eligibility for the food stamp program, medical assistance program and W-2 program (which is funded in part with TANF thories), to comply with efforts of DWD to establish the paternity of the individual's child or to collect support payments or property that the individual or the individual's child is entitled to receive. The individual is not required to cooperate, however, if DWD determines that the individual has good cause for the cooperate.

This bill specifies that an individual has good cause proteto cooperate with DWD's paternity establishment or support collection efforts if DWD determines that the cooperation-would put the individual or the individual's child at risk of emotional or physical harm.

This bill requires DWD to implement a program to provide training in issues of domestic abuse to individuals who are employed by a W-2 agency and who provide financial or employment counseling or supportive services to W-2 applicants and participants. The training program must include training on how to identify individuals who are victims of domestic abuse and how to maintain the safety and confidentiality of these individuals. DWD must develop a standardized assessment mechanism for the identification of individuals who are victims of domestic abuse.

This bill also requires a W-2 agency to advise a W-2 program applicant or participant of the possible benefits of disclosing to the W-2 agency that the individual is a victim of domestic abuse and to advise the applicant or participant of the support services and program options that are available to victims of domestic abuse. Finally, this bill requires the W-2 agency to advise a W-2 applicant or participant of the option of the option with DWD's effort to establish the paternity of a child or to collect child support or other support or property if the department determines that the individual's cooperation would put the individual or the individual's child at risk of emotional or physical harm.

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: , as affected by 1999 Wisconson Acf 9,

SECTION 1. 49.124 (lg) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

49.124 (lg) (a) The individual is a custodial parent of a child who is under the

age of 18 and who has an absent parent, or the individual lives with and exercises

parental control over a child who is under the age of 18 and who has an absent parent,

3

4

BILL

1

2

3

4

5

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

and the individual does not fully cooperate in good faith with efforts directed at establishing the paternity of the child, if necessary, establishing or enforcing a support order, if appropriate, or obtaining other payments or property, if any, to which that individual or the child may have rights. This paragraph does not apply if the denartment determines in accordance with federal law and regulations that the individual has good cause for refusing to cooperate, as determined by the this oaragraphs department in accordance with federal law and regulations including dal's cooperation would result in a risk of emotional or physical harm to the individual or the individual's child. (AS a Y (S. 1)

History: 1981 a. 27; 1995 a. 27 ss. 2788 to 2793, 3140, 3141; 1995 a. 289; 1997 a. 27, 38, 191, 236, 283; 1999 a. 9. SECTION 2. 49.145 (2) (f) 1. a. and b. of the statutes are amended to read:

49.145 (2) (f) 1. a. Every parent in the individual's Wisconsin works group fully cooperates in good faith with efforts directed at establishing the paternity of any minor child of that parent regardless of whether the parent is the custodial or noncustodial parent of that child. Such cooperation shall be in accordance with federal law and regulations and rules promulgated by the department applicable to paternity establishment and may not be required if the department determines that the parent has good cause for refusing to cooperate, as determined by the department in accordance with federal law and regulations linchuding that the parent's cooperation would result in a risk of emotional or nhysical harm to the narent or child/.

b. Every parent in the individual's Wisconsin works group fully cooperates in good faith with efforts directed at obtaining support payments or any other payments or property to which that parent and any minor child of that parent may have rights or for which that parent may be responsible, regardless of whether the parent is the · BILL

custodial or noncustodial parent of the minor child. Such cooperation shall be in
accordance with federal law and regulations and rules promulgated by the
department applicable to collection of support payments and may not be required if
the department determines that the parent has good cause for refusing to cooperate,
as determined by the department in accordance with federal law and regulations In this saladurs paragraph "good cause" includes
The direction of the compact of a compact of the co
harm to the parent or child.

History: 199.5 a 289; 1997 a. 27, 191, 237, 283; 1999 a. 9.

SECTION 3. 49.158 of the statutes is created to read:

- 49.158 Wisconsin works; domestic abuse training and services. (1) The department shall conduct a program to provide training in issues of domestic abuse to individuals who are employed by a Wisconsin works agency and who provide financial or employment counseling or supportive services to applicants for the Wisconsin works program or to participants. The program shall include training on how to identify victims of domestic abuse and how to maintain the safety and confidentiality of victims of domestic abuse.
- (2) The department shall develop a standardized assessment mechanism for Wisconsin works agencies to use in identifying applicants for the Wisconsin works program or participants who are victims of domestic abuse.
- (3) A Wisconsin works agency shall advise any individual who is an applicant for the Wisconsin works program or who is a participant of all of the following:
- (a) The possible benefits of disclosing to the Wisconsin works agency that the individual is a victim of domestic abuse.
- (b) Any counseling and other support services available to victims of domestic abuse.

BILL

of not cooperating (c) The option to with the efforts of the department to establish the paternity of the individual's child or to collect child or other support or property under s. 49.145 (2) (f) if the department determines that the individual's cooperation

would put the individual or the individual's child at risk of emotional or physical renumbered 49.22 (2m) (a) 2. and harm.

SECTION 4. 49.22 (2m) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

49.22 (2m) (a) The department may request from any person in this state information it determines appropriate and necessary for the administration of this section, ss. 49.141 to 49.161, 49.19, 49.46, 49.468 and 49.47 and programs carrying out the purposes of 7 USC 2011 to 2029. Unless access to the information is prohibited or restricted by law, or unless the denartment determines in accordance with federal law and regulations that the person has good cause, as determined by the department in accordance with federal law and regulations, for refusing to cooperate wint hid that the person's cooperation would result in a risk of emotional

or physical harm to the person or the person's child the person shall make a good

faith effort to provide this information within 7 days after receiving a request under this paragraph, Except as provided in subs. (2p) and (2r) and subject to sub. (12), the department or the county child support agency under s. 59.53 (5) may disclose information obtained under this paragraph only in the administration of this section, ss. 49.141 to 49.161, 49.19, 49.46 and 49.47 and programs carrying out the purposes of 7 USC 2011 to 2029. Employes of the department or a county child support agency

under s. 59.53 (5) are subject to s. 49.83.

49,22 (2m)(a) 1. a 399, 403, 413; 1989 a. 31; 1991 a. 39; 1993 a. 16,481; 1995 a 27 ss. 2128m to 2134.9126 (19), 9130 (4); 1995 a. 77, 187, 201, 225, 289; 1995 a. 404 ss. 39 to 43, 45, 46, 48, 173, 174; Stats. 1995 s. 49.22; 1997 a. 27, 105, 191, 237; s. 13.93 (2) (c).

SECTION 5. 49.45 (19) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

3

4

5

8

9

10

11

12

16

18

15₂

20

LRB-4590/1 ISR:...:... SECTION 5

1

2

3

4

5

6

· BILL

49.45 (19) (a) 1. Fully cooperate in good faith with efforts directed at establishing the paternity of a nonmarital child and obtaining support payments or any other payments or property to which the person and the dependent child or children may have rights. This cooperation shall be in accordance with federal law and regulations applying to paternity establishment and collection of support payments and may not be required if the department determines in accordance with federal law and regulations that the person has good cause for refusing to cooperate,-

8

as determined by the department in accordance with federal law and regulations

including that the person's cooperation would result in a risk of emotional or physical

harm to the person or the person's child ar a result of

ar a result of the person's cooperation

History: 1971 c. 40 s. 93; 1971 c. 42, 125; 1971 c. 213 s. 5; 1971 c. 215, 217, 307; 1973 c. 62, 90, 147; 1973 c. 333 ss. 106g, 106h, 106j, 201w; 1975 c. 39; 1975 c. 223 s. 28; 1975 c. 224 ss. 54h, 56 to 59m; 1975 c. 383 s. 4; 1975 c. 411; 1977 c. 29, 418; 1979 c. 34 ss. 837fto 838, 2102 (20) (a); 1979 c. 102, 177, 221, 355; 1981 c. 20 ss. 839 to 854, 2202 (20) (r); 1981 c. 93, 317; 1983 a. 27 ss. 1046 to 1062m, 2200 (42); 1983 a. 245, 447, 527; 1985 a. 29 ss. 1026m to 1031d, 3200 (23), (56), 3202 (27); 1985 a. 120, 176,269; 1985 a. 332 ss. 91,251 (5), 253; 1985 a. 340; 1987 a. 27 ss. 989r to 1000s, 2247,3202 (24); 1987 a. 186, 307, 339, 399; 1987 a. 403 s. 256; 1987 a. 413; 1989 a. 6; 1989 a. 31 ss. 1402 to 1452g, 2909g, 29091; 1989 a. 107, 173, 310, 336, 351, 359; 1991 a. 22, 39, 80, 250, 269, 315, 316; 1993 a. 16 ss. 1362g to 1403, 3883; 1993 a. 27,107, 1937 a. 31, 32, 212, 246, 269, 335, 356, 437, 446, 469; 1995 a. 20; 1995 a 27 ss. 2947 to 3002r, 7299, 9126 (19), 9130 (4), 9145 (1); 1995 a. 191, 216, 225, 289, 303, 398, 417, 457; 1997 a. 3, 13, 27, 114, 175, 191, 237, 252, 293; 1999 a. 9.

11

10

DRAFTER'S NOTE FROMTHE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

February 25, 2000

LRB-4590/1dn **ISR**:./.;...

Representative Richards:

Please review this bill carefully to make sure it achieves your intent. In particular please note the following:

1. Your instructions did not specify what agency, should develop the training program or the standardized assessment mechanism; sall assumed that you would like DWD to develop them. Is this what you intended? Please contact me if you would like to discuss other possibilities.

2. Do you want to include a definition of domestic abuse?

3. Finally, as you requested, this bill requires W-2 agencies to inform W-2 participants and applicants of the option with DWD in efforts to establish the paternity of the participant's child or to collect support payments if doing so would put the participant or the participant's children at risk of continued violence. Because the statutes do not specifically state that a good-cause exception to the child support enforcement rules includes a risk of continued violence, I also amended the good-cause exception language to clarify that the good-&use exception applies to a participant if cooperating would pose a risk of emotional or physical violence to the participant or the participant's children. OK?

If you have any questions or would like discuss a redraft, please feel free to contact me.

Ivy G. Sager-Rosenthal Legislative Attorney Phone: (608) 261-4455

E-mail: Ivy.Sager-Rosenthal@legis.state.wi.us

DRAFTER'S NOTE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

LRB-4590/1dn 1SR:kmg:hmh

February 29, 2000

Representative Richards:

Please review this bill carefully to make sure that it achieves your intent. In particular, please note the following:

- 1. Your instructions did not specify what agency should develop the training program or the standardized assessment mechanism. This draft requires DWD to develop them. Is this what you intended? Please contact me if you would like to discuss other possibilities.
 - 2. Do you want to include a definition of "domestic abuse"?
- 3. Finally, as you requested, this bill requires W-2 agencies to inform W-2 participants and applicants of the option of not cooperating with DWD in efforts to establish the paternity of the participant's child or to collect support payments if doing so would put the participant or the participant's children at risk of continued violence. Because the statutes do not specifically state that a good-cause exception to the child support enforcement rules includes a risk of continued violence, I also amended the good-cause exception language to clarify that the good-cause exception applies to a participant if cooperating would pose a risk of emotional or physical violence to the participant or the participant's children. OK?

If you have any questions or would like discuss a redraft, please feel free to contact me.

Ivy G. Sager-Rosenthal Legislative Attorney Phone: (608) 261-4455

E-mail: Ivy.Sager-Rosenthal@legis.state.wi.us