

2003-04 SESSION
COMMITTEE HEARING
RECORDS

Committee Name:

Senate Committee on
Health, Children,
Families, Aging and
Long Term Care
(SC-HCFALTC)

Sample:

Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

- 03hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt01a
- 03hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt01b
- 03hrAC-EdR_RCP_pt02

➤ Appointments ... Appt

➤ **

➤ Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

➤ **

➤ Committee Hearings ... CH

➤ **

➤ Committee Reports ... CR

➤ **

➤ Executive Sessions ... ES

➤ **

➤ Hearing Records ... HR

➤ 03hr_sb0435b

➤ Miscellaneous ... Misc

➤ **

➤ Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

➤ **

Senate Bill 435...relating to: waiver of a requirement under hemophilia treatment program to apply for other coverage.

BILL SPONSORS	Introduced by Senators M. Meyer and Schultz . Cosponsored by Representatives Johnsrud, Huebsch, Hahn, Hines, McCormick, Gronemus, Plouff, Musser and Albers.
BILL HISTORY	Senate Bill 435 was introduced and referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Children, Families, Aging and Long Term Care on February 9, 2004. A public hearing was held on February 19, 2004 and an executive session was held on February 20, 2004. The Committee voted 9-0 to recommend passage of Senate Bill 435.
LRB ANALYSIS	<p><u>Current Law:</u> Under current law, the Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) provides reimbursement to persons with hemophilia for part of the cost of blood products and supplies for the treatment of hemophilia. DHFS will not reimburse any portion of the costs of blood products and supplies that are payable under any other health care coverage program, grant, or contractual arrangement. DHFS is required to specify, by rule, other health care coverage programs for which a person must apply before applying for benefits under the hemophilia treatment program.</p> <p><u>Proposed Changes:</u> This bill provides that DHFS may, for religious reasons, grant an applicant a waiver from the requirement that the applicant must apply for coverage under other health care coverage programs before applying for benefits under the hemophilia treatment program. The bill also clarifies that DHFS will not reimburse a person for any portion of the costs of blood products and supplies that are payable under any other health care coverage program under which the person actually has coverage.</p> <p><u>Major Impact:</u> An applicant for benefits under the hemophilia program, within the Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program (WCDP), could request a religious exemption from the requirement to apply to other health care coverage programs before applying for WCDP.</p>
FISCAL EFFECT	<p>Prepared by DHFS The Department estimates that a potential \$150,000 GPR savings may be given up.</p>
SUPPORT	<p>The following people appeared in favor of this bill: (1) Senator Mark Meyer, 32nd Senate District; (2) David Linney, Great Lakes Hemophilia Foundation, Milwaukee; (3) Jerry Birk, American Red Cross, Madison; (4) Carol Diamond, Great Lakes Hemophilia Foundation, Madison; and (5) Phil Hansen, American Red Cross, Madison</p> <p>The following people registered in favor of this bill: (1) Phil Hansen, American Red Cross, Madison; (2) Representative DuWayne Johnsrud, 96th Assembly District; (3) Sharel Hubina, Red Cross, Madison; (4) Karmin Enge, American Red Cross, Lodi; and (5) Gary Radloff, Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association, Madison.</p>

OPPOSITION	No one appeared or registered in opposition of Senate Bill 435.
CONTACT	Jennifer Halbur, Senator Carol Roessler, 266-5300
DATE	March 2, 2004

2/19/04
Public Hearings

SB 435

Great Lakes Homophilia Assoc. Dr. Cord Diamond.

- Supports

Rep. Mayer

- Sig # of Amish in his district. Won't get insur. due to religious reasons.

As of 1/7/04 - won't have state coverage.

- Understand the narrow focus of this bill.

Primarily Vernon County (very poor part of the state). # 71 of 72 counties in rankings in terms of income.

- 2 pts. on F.R.

- (1) increase in costs / or is it reduction in savings.

~~Mayer's view~~

Mayer's view.

* End of the day - these people are going to get treatment - ER, when condition worsens.

Jerry Bird

- American Red Cross.

- Currently have over 100 hemophelia patients in program - most are Amish

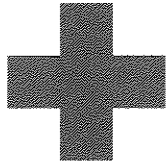
- Due to religious reasons - Amish don't participate in insurance programs.

- Want to keep them out of hospitals.

- American Red Cross may not be able to dispense blood & supplies to Amish since they will be uninsured.

David Linnay G.L. Hemophilia Assoc.

- unnecessary hospitalization
- has written testimony.



**American
Red Cross**

Badger Chapter

SB 435

Badger Center for Bleeding Disorders

4860 Sheboygan Avenue

Madison, Wisconsin 53705

(608) 227-1254 or (608) 227-1267

(800) 626-4017

TDD: (608) 233-0157

Fax: (608) 227-1264

www.arcbadger.org

To: Members, Senate Committee on Health, Children, Families, Aging,
and Long Term Care

From: American Red Cross Badger Center for Bleeding Disorders

Date: February 13, 2004

Re: Amish Bill

The American Red Cross Badger Center for Bleeding Disorders is requesting your support with a bill to exempt the Amish from needing to apply for other health care coverage programs before being eligible for the Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program. We currently serve 11 Amish children and adults who have hemophilia. They are enrolled in the Hemophilia Home Care portion of the Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program which pays a substantial portion of the cost of the factor IX concentrate they use to treat their hemophilia at home. As you know, the Amish do not participate in private or government health insurance programs for religious reasons.

Hemophilia Home Care is acceptable to the Amish as they have been taught through our program to handle the intravenous infusions at home. This helps keep them self reliant which is important to them. It is also the best type of hemophilia care because they can infuse promptly when they have an injury. They have learned that prompt treatment usually leads to a swift recovery and ability to return to work quickly. This is important in their culture. It also keeps them out of emergency rooms and hospitals which actually saves money for everyone.

Thank you for supporting the bill to exempt the Amish from needing to apply for other health care coverage programs before being eligible for the Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program.

SB 435
2-19-04
Sen. Health
Public Hearing



TO: Senate Committee on Health, Children, Families, Aging and Long Term Care

FROM: Mary Anne Schall, Acting Executive Director

DATE: February 18, 2004

RE: Support for Senate Bill # 435

The Great Lakes Hemophilia Foundation requests your support for Senate Bill # 435 exempting the Amish community from applying for other healthcare coverage before being eligible for the Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program (WCDP).

This bill, if passed, will enable the approximately 45 Wisconsin Amish with hemophilia to continue to utilize the WCDP to pay for essential blood products, critical for the treatment of hemophilia-related bleeding episodes. Because the Amish do not participate in private or government health insurance for religious reasons, without this legislation, the Amish with hemophilia would be without coverage for essential medications to treat bleeds. The consequences could be devastating - - crippling joint arthropathies, major bleeding complications, and possibly death. Beside the human tolls, there are also the costs to society of many unnecessary, costly hospitalizations.

The Great Lakes Hemophilia Foundation works to assure optimal care for all Wisconsin individuals living with hemophilia. The standard of care for individuals with hemophilia is self-infusion with blood products. Self-infusion, at home, provides timely, effective treatment. The quicker blood products are infused; the quicker hemophilia-related bleeding episodes can be resolved. Self-infusion, as opposed emergency room or hospital care saves valuable time thus prevents complications that can result in long-term disabilities. The WCDP supports this optimal standard of care by helping pay for these essential blood products. If they are permitted to access the WCDP, the Wisconsin Amish will enjoy a standard of care equal to others with hemophilia across Wisconsin and across the country. Without access to the WCDP program - they may NOT.

As the information, advocacy and support organization for Wisconsinites with bleeding disorders, the Great Lakes Hemophilia Foundation strongly encourages your support of this bill. If we can provide any additional information about hemophilia, treatment or our Wisconsin patient population, please do not hesitate to contact us at (414) 257-0200.



Mark Meyer

State Senator • 32nd Senate District

State Senator Carol Roessler
State Capitol
Madison, WI

February 19, 2004

HAND DELIVERED

Dear Senator ~~Roessler~~: *Carol*:

My staff has informed me that I made an incorrect statement about the Hemophilia Home Care Program provision in the last state biennial budget.

In my testimony I stated that the administration proposed the change requiring hemophilia patients to seek private insurance before being able to participate in the program and that the legislature approved it. This statement was incorrect.

If fact, the legislature modified this provision in an attempt to recognize the special situation faced by the Amish in Wisconsin. This modification was vetoed.

My understanding is that the language was vetoed because DHFS didn't oppose the fix in principal but felt the proposed modification was too broad in scope. Since the veto I have worked with Representative Dwayne Johsrud and DHFS to find language that would fix our problem and tighten the scope to just affect those with a religious beliefs that preclude participation in insurance programs.

I apologize for any misunderstand my remarks may have caused. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mark Meyer

State Senator Mark Meyer
32nd Senate District





WISCONSIN
PRIMARY HEALTH CARE
ASSOCIATION

February 19, 2004

To: Members of the Senate Health, Children, Aging and Long Term Care Committee

From: Gary Radloff, Associate Director

Re: Senate Bill 435 -- Religious exemptions to hemophilia program

The Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association includes 15 federally-funded Health Centers who provided primary health care services to over 120,000 men, women and children throughout the state in 2002. Wisconsin's Community Health Centers and its affiliates provide quality care to people regardless of their insurance status or ability to pay. The Association urges you to support Senate Bill 435.

This bill allows DHFS to grant exemptions for religious reasons to current law under the hemophilia portion of the Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program. Under current law DHFS will not pay for the costs of blood products and supplies under the Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program if the person does not first apply and seek potential eligibility under Medicaid, BadgerCare or Medicare.

An amendment to the budget was partially vetoed because the budget language exempted only the Amish from this DHFS program provision. It has been redrafted at the request of DHFS to use the "religious reasons" exemption.

As a general rule, Old Order Amish families do not participate in health insurance programs for religious reasons. These families consider Medicaid, BadgerCare and Medicare to be insurance programs and therefore do not apply.

- The application for the Hemophilia Home Care Program requires the applicant first complete enrollment forms for government health insurance programs.
- Injuries resulting from farm accidents and from horses are extremely common among the Amish population and can pose life-threatening complications for a hemophiliac.
- If a person with hemophilia has a simple joint bleed- the most common type for a hemophiliac- factor costs can exceed \$5,000.
- Costs for an individual with hemophilia can exceed \$250,000 in one year.

- more -



WISCONSIN
PRIMARY HEALTH CARE
ASSOCIATION

Senate Bill 435

- Without the Home Care Program, many Amish families with hemophilia would incur significant debt and in most cases it would become too large to pay. The debt would then fall to the health care systems treating the Amish.
- A religious exemption from applying for Medicaid/BadgerCare first before being eligible for the Hemophilia Home Care Program is extremely important in providing life-saving care to the Amish.

Please feel free to contact me if you have additional questions or concerns with Senate Bill 435 or any other matter.

The Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association's mission is to advance geographic, financial and cultural access to comprehensive, community-oriented primary health care services for all people in Wisconsin.

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TO: Senate Committee on Health, Children, Families, Aging and Long Term Care
Care

FROM: Mary Anne Schall, Acting Executive Director

DATE: February 18, 2004

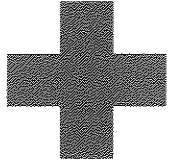
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This bill, if passed, will enable the approximately 45 Wisconsin Amish with hemophilia to continue to utilize the WCDP to pay for essential blood products, critical for the treatment of hemophilia-related bleeding episodes. Because the Amish do not participate in private or government health insurance for religious reasons, without this legislation, the Amish with hemophilia would be without coverage for essential medications to treat bleeds. The consequences could be devastating - - crippling joint arthropathies, major bleeding complications, and possibly death. Beside the human tolls, there are also the costs to society of many unnecessary, costly hospitalizations.

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As the information, advocacy and support organization for Wisconsinites with bleeding disorders, the Great Lakes Hemophilia Foundation strongly encourages your support of this bill. If we can provide any additional information about hemophilia, treatment or our Wisconsin patient population, please do not hesitate to contact us at (414) 257-0200.



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Badger Chapter

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To: Members, Senate Committee on Health, Children, Families, Aging,
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Date: February 13, 2004

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Senate Bill 435

Relates to waiver of a requirement under hemophilia treatment program to apply for other coverage.

- Senator Meyer will be testifying. He introduced this bill as result of a concern raised by the Amish community.
- The Red Cross, Great Lakes Hemophilia Foundation and Dr. Carol Richard will be testifying as a panel.
- This bill provides that DHFS may, for religious reasons, grant an applicant a waiver from the requirement that the applicant must apply for coverage under other health care coverage programs before applying for benefits under the hemophilia treatment program.
- The bill also clarifies that DHFS will **not reimburse** a person for any portion of the costs of blood products and supplies that are payable under any other health care coverage program under which the person actually has coverage.

1000 requires
People to seek
out insurance
1st -
These folks
won't appl

100 of which is Amish
children
& adults
Pursuing Bill

Amish ~~askings~~

as of July 1st.
will not participate

Costly *
2 days - 105,000
Venor 7,500 in personal
Per capita income

500,000
End of day get
@ some year H.C.
Loss of Hosp.



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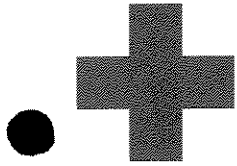
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Thank you for supporting the bill to exempt the Amish from needing to apply for other health care coverage programs before being eligible for the Wisconsin Chronic Disease Program.

GREAT LAKES
HEMOPHILIA
FOUNDATION
TODAY'S CARE, TOMORROW'S CURE.

FLOOR DISTRIBUTION
AUTHORIZED BY SENATOR
MEYER

TO: Members of the Wisconsin State Senate
FROM: Mary Anne Schall, Acting Executive Director
DATE: March 4, 2004
RE: Support for Senate Bill # 435

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The
Hamilton Consulting Group

Legislative, Regulatory & Information Services

FLOOR DISTRIBUTION
AUTHORIZED BY SENATOR
MEYER

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Date: March 4, 2004

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