AN ACT to amend 49.45 (6m) (ar) 1. a. of the statutes; relating to: requiring the Department of Health and Family Services to treat 4 counties as one labor region for purposes of Medical Assistance nursing home reimbursement.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 49.45 (6m) (ar) 1. a. of the statutes is amended to read:

49.45 (6m) (ar) 1. a. The department shall establish standards for payment of allowable direct care costs under par. (am) 1. bm., for facilities that do not primarily serve the developmentally disabled, that take into account direct care costs for a sample of all of those facilities in this state and separate standards for payment of allowable direct care costs, for facilities that primarily serve the developmentally disabled, that take into account direct care costs for a sample of all of those facilities in this state. The standards shall be adjusted by the department for regional labor cost variations. The department shall treat as a single labor region the counties of Dane, Iowa, Columbia, and Sauk. For facilities in Douglas, Pierce, and St. Croix counties, the department shall perform the adjustment by use of the wage index that is used by the federal department of health and human services for hospital reimbursement under 42 USC 1395 to 1395ggg.

* Section 991.11, WISCONSIN STATUTES 2003–04: Effective date of acts. “Every act and every portion of an act enacted by the legislature over the governor’s partial veto which does not expressly prescribe the time when it takes effect shall take effect on the day after its date of publication as designated” by the secretary of state [the date of publication may not be more than 10 working days after the date of enactment].