2005 - 2006 LEGISLATURE

ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1. TO 2005 ASSEMBLY BILL 993

Pebruary 7, 2006 - Offered by Representative Underheim.

	Dego cont
1	AN ACT to repeal 146.37, to amend 146.55 (7), 187.33 (3) (a) 5., 187.43 (3) (a) 5. 655 27 (1m) (b) and 655 27 (5) (a) 1. and 2; and to repeal and represent
2	5., 655.27 (1m) (b) and 655.27 (5) (a) 1. and 2.; and to repeal and recreate
3	146.38 of the statutes; relating to: confidentiality of health care review records
4	and immunity.

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

SECTION 1. 146.37 of the statutes is repealed.

5

9

- 6 **Section 2.** 146.38 of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:
- 7 146.38 Health care quality improvement activity. (1) Definitions. In this 8 section:
 - (a) "Adverse action" means any action or recommendation to reduce, restrict, suspend, deny, revoke, or fail to renew any of the following:
- 11 1. A health care entity's clinical privileges or clinical practice authority at a 12 hospital or other health care entity.

2. A health care entity's membership on a medical staff that is organized under 1 2 by-laws or in another health care entity. 3 3. A health care entity's participation in a defined network plan, as defined in registration, approval, 4 s. 609.01 (1b). credentialing) 5 4. The accreditation, licensure, or certification of a health care entity. (b) "Health care entity" means any of the following: 1. A health care provider, as defined in s. 146.81 (1) an ambulatory surgery center as defined in s. 153.01 (1) (a home health agency, as defined in s. 50.49 (1) (a) a home health aide, as defined in s. 146.40 (1) (bm), a hospice aide, as defined in s. 10 146.40 (1) (bp), a nurse's assistant, as defined in s. 146.40 (1) (d), an ambulance 11 service provider, as defined in s. 146.50 (1) (c), an emergency medical technician, as 12 defined in s. 146.50 (1) (e), a first responder, as defined in s. 146.50 (1) (hm), or any 13 other person who is licensed, certified, or registered to provide health care services 14 including mental health services. 15 2. An individual who is enrolled in an education or training program that the 16 individual must complete in order to obtain credentials required of an individual 17 under subd. 1. 18 3. A person who is certified as a provider of medical assistance under s. 49.45 19 (2) (a) 11. 20 4. A parent organization, subsidiary, or affiliate of a person described under 21 subd. 1. or 3. 22 "Quality improvement activity" means an evaluation, review, study, 23 assessment, investigation, recommendation, monitoring, corrective action, adverse 24 action, or any other action, which may include one-time, continuous, or periodic data 25collection, relating to any of the following subjects:

1 1. The quality of care provided by a health care entity or the quality of services 2 provided by a health care entity that have an impact on care. 3 2. Morbidity or mortality related to a health care entity. 4 3. The qualification, competence, conduct, or performance of a health care 5 entity. 6 4. The cost or use of health care services and resources of a health care entity. 7 5. Compliance with applicable legal, ethical, or behavioral standards for a 8 health care entity. 9 6. Compliance with credentialing, accreditation, or regulatory standards for a 10 health care entity and performance of credentialing, accreditation, or regulatory (accreditation, licensure, registration, certification activities. 11 7. The approval or credentialing of a health care entity. 12 13 (e) "Records" includes minutes, files, notes, reports, statements, memoranda, 14 databases, findings, work products, and images, regardless of the type of 15 communications medium or form, including oral communications, and whether in 16 statistical form or otherwise. 17 (f) "State agency" means a department, board, examining board, affiliated 18 credentialing board, commission, independent agency, council, or office in the 19 executive branch of state government. 20 (2) IMMUNITY FOR ACTS OR OMISSIONS. (a) No person acting in good faith who participates in a quality improvement activity described under sub. (3) (a) 1 is liable $|21\rangle$ 22 for civil damages as a result of any act or omission by the person in the course of the 23 quality improvement activity. 24 (b) The good faith of any person participating in a quality improvement activity

described under sub (3) (a) 1. shall be presumed in any civil action. Any person who

Fowhile sub. (3)

[16]

that conducts a quality improvement activity as

asserts that a person has not acted in good faith has the burden of proving that assertion by clear and convincing evidence.

- (3) Confidential and privileged; are not subject to discovery, subpoena, or any other means of legal compulsion requiring release or permitting inspection, including compulsion by a state agency; and are not admissible as evidence in any civil, criminal, or other judicial or administrative proceeding:
- 1. Records and information contained in records that are created, collected, reported, aggregated, or organized by any person as part of a quality improvement activity that is conducted by any person, organization, department, governing body, or committee, including a committee with representatives from multiple persons, organizations, departments, or governing bodies, that is any of the following:
- a. A person other than a state agency who is required or authorized by state or federal law, as a condition of accreditation, or under a bylaw, resolution, or policy to conduct the quality improvement activity, or another person who acts on that person's behalf. This Euddwision unit does not apply to a state agency.
- b. A person who is charged, authorized, or directed by a person described in subd. 1. a. to conduct the quality improvement activity.
- 2. A request for records or information made as part of a quality improvement activity described under subd. 1. by a person conducting the quality improvement activity.
- 3. Notice to a health care entity that the entity is or will be the subject of a quality improvement activity described under subd. 1.

Subd. 1. a.

(b) Except as provided in sub. (4) (c) and(g), the confidentiality and privilege afforded to records and information under par. (a) is not waived by unauthorized or authorized disclosure of records or information. (c) Records relating to a quality improvement activity described under par. (a) 5 1. are not subject to inspection or copying under s. 19.35 (1). 6 (4) EXCEPTIONS TO CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVILEGE. (a) Subsection (3) does not apply to records or information created apart from a quality improvement activity 7 8 that are maintained by or for a health care entity for the particular purpose of diagnosing, treating, or documenting care provided to an individual patient. (b) Subsection (3) does not prohibit disclosing that a reduction, restriction, 11 suspension, denial, revocation, or failure to renew any item under sub. (1) (a) 1. to 12 4. has occurred. (c) A person mandated by Wisconsin or federal law to report may disclose a 13 14 record or information from a record that is confidential and privileged under sub. (3) 15 to make the mandated report. Subsection (3) does not apply to a record that has been disclosed under this paragraph or to information in the record. 16 17 (d) If a person takes an adverse action against a health care entity as part of 18 a quality improvement activity described under sub (3) (a) 1, or notifies the health 19 care entity of a proposed adverse action, the person shall, upon request by the health 20 care entity, disclose to the health care entity any records in the person's possession 21 relating to the adverse action or proposed adverse action. Records relating to the 22 adverse action are admissible in any criminal, civil, or other judicial or 23 administrative proceeding in which the health care entity contests the adverse

action. A person who has authority to take an adverse action against a health care

entity as part of a quality improvement activity described under sub? (3) (a) 1/4, may

to which sub. (3) applies

24

runder sub. (3) (a) 1.a.

at any time disclose to the health care entity records relating to a proposed adverse 1 2 action against the health care entity. 3 (e) A person conducting a quality improvement activity pursuant to sub. (3) (a) May may disclose the records and information that are confidential and privileged Tunder sub. (3) (a) 1.b. pursuant to sub. (3). (f) A person/conducting a quality improvement activity pursuant to sub. (3) (a) Mb may disclose the records and information that are confidential and privileged pursuant to sub. (3) if there is written authorization to make the disclosure from the 1 whoever person that charged, authorized, or directed the person to conduct the quality (does not apply to) 10 improvement activity. (g) The confidentiality and privilege afforded to records and information under 11 12 sub. (3) is waived for records that are publicly disclosed under par. (e) or (f) to persons 13 that are not health care entities. (h) A person planning an activity that would be a quality improvement activity 14 under sub. (3) (a) 1, may in advance of the activity designate in writing that sub. (3) 15 shall not apply to the records and information created, collected, reported, 16 17 aggregated, or organized by any person as part of the designated activity. (5) Any person who discloses information or releases a record in violation of 18 19 sub. (3), other than through a good faith mistake, is civilly liable to any person 20 harmed by the disclosure or release. 21**(6)** Construction. This section shall be liberally construed in favor of identifying records and information as confidential, privileged, and inadmissible as 22 23 evidence. 24 **Section 3.** 146.55 (7) of the statutes is amended to read:

146.55 (7) Insurance. A physician who participates in an emergency medical services program under this section or as required under s. 146.50 shall purchase health care liability insurance in compliance with subch. III of ch. 655, except for those acts or omissions of a physician who, as a medical director, reviews as defined in s. 146.50 (1) (j), conducts a quality improvement activity relating to the performance of emergency medical technicians or ambulance service providers, as specified under s. 146.37 (1g) 146.38 (2).

SECTION 4. 187.33 (3) (a) 5. of the statutes is amended to read:

187.33 (3) (a) 5. Proceedings based upon a cause of action for which the volunteer is immune from liability under s. 146.31 (2) and (3), 146.37 146.38 (2), 895.44, 895.48, 895.482, 895.51, or 895.52.

SECTION 5. 187.43 (3) (a) 5. of the statutes is amended to read:

187.43 (3) (a) 5. Proceedings based upon a cause of action for which the volunteer is immune from liability under s. 146.31 (2) and (3), 146.37 146.38 (2), 895.44, 895.48, 895.482, 895.51, or 895.52.

Section 6. 655.27 (1m) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

655.27 (1m) (b) A health care provider who engages in the activities described in s. 146.37 (1g) and (3) a quality improvement activity under 146.38 shall be liable for not more than the limits expressed under s. 655.23 (4) or the maximum liability limit for which the health care provider is insured, whichever limit is greater, if he or she is found to be liable under s. 146.37 146.38, and the fund shall pay the excess amount, unless the health care provider is found not to have acted in good faith during those activities and the failure to act in good faith is found by the trier of fact, by clear and convincing evidence, to be both malicious and intentional.

SECTION 7. 655.27 (5) (a) 1. and 2. of the statutes are amended to read:

 $\mathbf{2}$

655.27 (5) (a) 1. Any person may file a claim for damages arising out of the rendering of medical care or services or participation in peer review activities a quality improvement activity under s. 146.37 146.38 within this state against a health care provider or an employee of a health care provider. A person filing a claim may recover from the fund only if the health care provider or the employee of the health care provider has coverage under the fund, the fund is named as a party in the action, and the action against the fund is commenced within the same time limitation within which the action against the health care provider or employee of the health care provider must be commenced.

2. Any person may file an action for damages arising out of the rendering of medical care or services or participation in peer review activities a quality review activity under s. 146.37 146.38 outside this state against a health care provider or an employee of a health care provider. A person filing an action may recover from the fund only if the health care provider or the employee of the health care provider has coverage under the fund, the fund is named as a party in the action, and the action against the fund is commenced within the same time limitation within which the action against the health care provider or employee of the health care provider must be commenced. If the rules of procedure of the jurisdiction in which the action is brought do not permit naming the fund as a party, the person filing the action may recover from the fund only if the health care provider or the employee of the health care provider has coverage under the fund and the fund is notified of the action within 60 days of service of process on the health care provider or the employee of the health care provider. The board of governors may extend this time limit if it finds

- that enforcement of the time limit would be prejudicial to the purposes of the fund
- 2 and would benefit neither insureds nor claimants.

3 (END)

2005–2006 DRAFTING INSERT FROM THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

INSERT 5-9

(am) Subsection (3) does not apply to the release to a state agency of records or information created apart from a quality improvement activity that are maintained by or for a health care entity for a purpose other than as specified under par. (a), upon a showing by clear and convincing evidence that the records or information are otherwise unavailable.

(ar) Any person who testifies during or participates in a quality improvement activity with records or information to which sub. (3) applies may testify in any civil, criminal, or other judicial or administrative proceding as to matters within his or her knowledge, but may not testify as to information obtained solely through his or her participation in the quality improvement activity and may not testify as to any conclusion of the quality improvement activity.

(Vsha)

1

 $\mathbf{2}$

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

information



hospital or other health care entity.

LRBs0538/**F** ≈ DAK&RLR:cjs:p**g**

ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT, TO 2005 ASSEMBLY BILL 993



1	AN ACT to repeal 146.37; to amend 146.55 (7), 187.33 (3) (a) 5., 187.43 (3) (a)
2	5., 655.27 (1m) (b) and 655.27 (5) (a) 1. and 2.; and to repeal and recreate
3	146.38 of the statutes; relating to: confidentiality of health care review records
4	and immunity.
*	The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:
5	SECTION 1. 146.37 of the statutes is repealed.
6	SECTION 2. 146.38 of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:
7	146.38 Health care quality improvement activity. (1) Definitions. In this
8	section:
9	(a) "Adverse action" means any action or recommendation to reduce, restrict,
10	suspend, deny, revoke, or fail to renew any of the following:
11	1. A health care entity's clinical privileges or clinical practice authority at a

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

23

- 2. A health care entity's membership on a medical staff that is organized under by-laws or in another health care entity.
- 3 3. A health care entity's participation in a defined network plan, as defined in s. 609.01 (1b).
 - 4. The credentialing, accreditation, licensure, registration, approval, or certification of a health care entity.
 - (b) "Health care entity" means any of the following:
 - 1. A health care provider, as defined in s. 146.81 (1); an ambulatory surgery center as defined in s. 153.01 (1); a home health agency, as defined in s. 50.49 (1) (a); a home health aide, as defined in s. 146.40 (1) (bm); a hospice aide, as defined in s. 146.40 (1) (bp); a nurse's assistant, as defined in s. 146.40 (1) (d); an ambulance service provider, as defined in s. 146.50 (1) (c); an emergency medical technician, as defined in s. 146.50 (1) (e); a first responder, as defined in s. 146.50 (1) (hm); or any other person who is licensed, certified, approved, or registered to provide health care services, including mental health services.
 - 2. An individual who is enrolled in an education or training program that the individual must complete in order to obtain credentials required of an individual under subd. 1.
- 3. A person who is certified as a provider of medical assistance under s. 49.45 (2) (a) 11.
- 4. A parent organization, subsidiary, or affiliate of a person described under subd. 1. or 3.
 - (d) "Quality improvement activity" means an evaluation, review, study, assessment, investigation, recommendation, monitoring, corrective action, adverse

24

action, or any other action, which may include one-time, continuous, or periodic data 1 2 collection, relating to any of the following subjects: 3 1. The quality of care provided by a health care entity or the quality of services 4 provided by a health care entity that have an impact on care. 5 2. Morbidity or mortality related to a health care entity. 6 3. The qualification, competence, conduct, or performance of a health care 7 entity. 8 4. The cost or use of health care services and resources of a health care entity. 9 5. Compliance with applicable legal, ethical, or behavioral standards for a 10 health care entity. 11 6. Compliance with credentialing, accreditation, or regulatory standards for a health care entity and performance of credentialing, accreditation, or regulatory 12 activities. accreditation 13 The accrediation, licensure, registration, certification, approval, or 14 7. credentialing of a health care entity. 15 16 (e) "Records" includes minutes, files, notes, reports, statements, memoranda, 17 databases, findings, work products, and images, regardless of the type of 18 communications medium or form, including oral communications, and whether in 19 statistical form or otherwise. (f) "State agency" means a department, board, examining board, affiliated 20 21 credentialing board, commission, independent agency, council, or office in the 22 executive branch of state government.

(2) IMMUNITY FOR ACTS OR OMISSIONS. (a) No person acting in good faith who

participates in a quality improvement activity to which sub. (3) applies is liable for

civil damages as a result of any act or omission by the person in the course of the quality improvement activity.

- (b) The good faith of any person participating in a quality improvement activity to which sub. (3) applies shall be presumed in any civil action. Any person who asserts that a person has not acted in good faith has the burden of proving that assertion by clear and convincing evidence.
- (3) Confidential and privilege. (a) Except as provided in sub. (4), all of the following are confidential and privileged; are not subject to discovery, subpoena, or any other means of legal compulsion requiring release or permitting inspection, including compulsion by a state agency; and are not admissible as evidence in any civil, criminal, or other judicial or administrative proceeding:
- 1. Records and information contained in records that are created, collected, reported, aggregated, or organized by any person as part of a quality improvement activity that is conducted by any person, organization, department, governing body, or committee, including a committee with representatives from multiple persons, organizations, departments, or governing bodies, that is any of the following:
- a. A person that conducts a quality improvement activity as required or authorized by state or federal law, as a condition of accreditation, or under a bylaw, resolution, or policy; or another person who acts on that person's behalf. This subd.

 1. a. does not apply to a state agency.
- b. A person who is charged, authorized, or directed by a person described in subd. 1. a. to conduct the quality improvement activity.
- 2. A request for records or information made as part of a quality improvement activity described under subd. 1. by a person conducting the quality improvement activity.

23

24

4. has occurred.

1	3. Notice to a health care entity that the entity is or will be the subject of a
2	quality improvement activity described under subd. 1.
3	(b) Except as provided in sub. (4) (c) and (g), the confidentiality and privilege
4	afforded under par. (a) is not waived by unauthorized or authorized disclosure.
5	(c) Records described under par. (a) 1. are not subject to inspection or copying
6	under s. 19.35 (1).
7	(4) Exceptions to confidentiality and privilege. (a) Subsection (3) does not
8	apply to records or information created apart from a quality improvement activity
9	that are maintained by or for a health care entity for the particular purpose of
10	diagnosing, treating, or documenting care provided to an individual patient.
11	(am) Subsection (3) does not apply to the release to a state agency of records
12	or information created apart from a quality improvement activity that are
13	maintained by or for a health care entity for a purpose other than as specified under
14	par. (a), upon a showing by clear and convincing evidence that the records or
15	information are otherwise unavailable.
16	(ar) Any person who testifies during or participates in a quality improvement
17	activity may testify in any civil, criminal, or other judicial or administrative
18	proceeding as to information within his or her knowledge, but may testify as to
19	information obtained solely through his or her participation in the quality
20	improvement activity and may not testify as to any conclusion of the quality
21	improvement activity.

(b) Subsection (3) does not prohibit disclosing that a reduction, restriction,

suspension, denial, revocation, or failure to renew any item under sub. (1) (a) 1. to

- (c) A person required by state or federal law to report may disclose a record or information from a record that is confidential and privileged under sub. (3), in order to make the required report. Subsection (3) does not apply to a record that is disclosed under this paragraph or to information in the record.
- (d) If a person takes an adverse action against a health care entity or notifies a health care entity of a proposed adverse action against the health care entity as part of a quality improvement activity to which sub. (3) applies, the person shall, upon request by the health care entity, disclose to the health care entity any records in the person's possession relating to the adverse action or proposed adverse action. Records relating to the adverse action are admissible in any criminal, civil, or other judicial or administrative proceeding in which the health care entity contests the adverse action. A person who has authority to take an adverse action against a health care entity as part of a quality improvement activity to which sub. (3) applies may at any time disclose to the health care entity records relating to a proposed adverse action against the health care entity.
- (e) A person under sub. (3) (a) 1. a. conducting a quality improvement activity may disclose the records and information that are confidential and privileged under sub. (3).
- (f) A person under sub. (3) (a) 1. b. conducting a quality improvement activity may disclose the records and information that are confidential and privileged under sub. (3) if there is written authorization to make the disclosure from whoever charged, authorized, or directed the person to conduct the quality improvement activity.
- (g) The confidentiality and privilege afforded to records under sub. (3) does not apply to records that are disclosed to the general public under par. (e) or (f).

 $895.44,\,895.48,\,895.482,\,895.51$, or 895.52.

(h) A person planning an activity that would be a quality improvement activity
may in advance of the activity designate in writing that sub. (3) does not apply to the
records and information created, collected, reported, aggregated, or organized by any
person as part of the designated activity.
(5) Any person who discloses information or releases a record in violation of
sub. (3), other than through a good faith mistake, is civilly liable to any person
harmed by the disclosure or release.
(6) CONSTRUCTION. This section shall be liberally construed in favor of
identifying records and information as confidential, privileged, and inadmissible as
evidence.
SECTION 3. 146.55 (7) of the statutes is amended to read:
146.55 (7) Insurance. A physician who participates in an emergency medical
services program under this section or as required under s. 146.50 shall purchase
health care liability insurance in compliance with subch. III of ch. 655, except for
those acts or omissions of a physician who, as a medical director, reviews as defined
in s. 146.50 (1) (j), conducts a quality improvement activity relating to the
performance of emergency medical technicians or ambulance service providers, as
specified under s. 146.37 (1g) 146.38 (2).
Section 4. 187.33 (3) (a) 5. of the statutes is amended to read:
187.33 (3) (a) 5. Proceedings based upon a cause of action for which the
volunteer is immune from liability under s. 146.31 (2) and (3), 146.37 146.38 (2),

Section 5. 187.43 (3) (a) 5. of the statutes is amended to read:

187.43 (3) (a) 5. Proceedings based upon a cause of action for which the volunteer is immune from liability under s. 146.31 (2) and (3), 146.37 146.38 (2), 895.44, 895.48, 895.482, 895.51, or 895.52.

Section 6. 655.27 (1m) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

655.27 (1m) (b) A health care provider who engages in the activities described in s. 146.37 (1g) and (3) a quality improvement activity under 146.38 shall be liable for not more than the limits expressed under s. 655.23 (4) or the maximum liability limit for which the health care provider is insured, whichever limit is greater, if he or she is found to be liable under s. 146.37 146.38, and the fund shall pay the excess amount, unless the health care provider is found not to have acted in good faith during those activities and the failure to act in good faith is found by the trier of fact, by clear and convincing evidence, to be both malicious and intentional.

Section 7. 655.27 (5) (a) 1. and 2. of the statutes are amended to read:

655.27 (5) (a) 1. Any person may file a claim for damages arising out of the rendering of medical care or services or participation in peer review activities a quality improvement activity under s. 146.37 146.38 within this state against a health care provider or an employee of a health care provider. A person filing a claim may recover from the fund only if the health care provider or the employee of the health care provider has coverage under the fund, the fund is named as a party in the action, and the action against the fund is commenced within the same time limitation within which the action against the health care provider or employee of the health care provider must be commenced.

2. Any person may file an action for damages arising out of the rendering of medical care or services or participation in peer review activities a quality review activity under s. 146.37 146.38 outside this state against a health care provider or

an employee of a health care provider. A person filing an action may recover from the fund only if the health care provider or the employee of the health care provider has coverage under the fund, the fund is named as a party in the action, and the action against the fund is commenced within the same time limitation within which the action against the health care provider or employee of the health care provider must be commenced. If the rules of procedure of the jurisdiction in which the action is brought do not permit naming the fund as a party, the person filing the action may recover from the fund only if the health care provider or the employee of the health care provider has coverage under the fund and the fund is notified of the action within 60 days of service of process on the health care provider or the employee of the health care provider. The board of governors may extend this time limit if it finds that enforcement of the time limit would be prejudicial to the purposes of the fund and would benefit neither insureds nor claimants.

 $\mathbf{2}$

Kennedy, Debora

From:

Thorson, Randy

Sent:

Wednesday, February 15, 2006 10:17 AM

To:

Kennedy, Debora

Subject:

Redraft Sub to AB 993 (hopefully for the last time)

Debora,

Here is language from Eric Callisto that we hope is the triple dog dare last change to AB 993 (don't hold your breath).

We have one additional request, p.5, lines 16-17: "Any person who testifies during or participates in a quality improvement activity to which sub. (3) applies may testify in any civil, criminal"

This would address my recurring concern that the language of the exceptions make clear that they only apply in situations where the confidentiality and privilege otherwise would attach.

Please redraft the sub. I have called the page staff to return the stripes.

Any questions, please call or email

Randy

2005 - 2006 LEGISLATURE

LRBs0538/2

DAK&RLR:cjs:pg

ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT, TO 2005 ASSEMBLY BILL 993



 $AN\ ACT\ \textit{to repeal}\ 146.37; \textit{to amend}\ 146.55\ (7),\ 187.33\ (3)\ (a)\ 5.,\ 187.43\ (3)\ (a)$ 1 5., 655.27 (1m) (b) and 655.27 (5) (a) 1. and 2.; and to repeal and recreate 2 3 146.38 of the statutes; relating to: confidentiality of health care review records 4 and immunity.

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

Section 1. 146.37 of the statutes is repealed.

5

9

- 6 **Section 2.** 146.38 of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:
- 7 146.38 Health care quality improvement activity. (1) Definitions. In this 8 section:
 - (a) "Adverse action" means any action or recommendation to reduce, restrict, suspend, deny, revoke, or fail to renew any of the following:
- 11 1. A health care entity's clinical privileges or clinical practice authority at a hospital or other health care entity. 12

- 2. A health care entity's membership on a medical staff that is organized under by-laws or in another health care entity.
 - 3. A health care entity's participation in a defined network plan, as defined in s. 609.01 (1b).
 - 4. The credentialing, accreditation, licensure, registration, approval, or certification of a health care entity.
 - (b) "Health care entity" means any of the following:
 - 1. A health care provider, as defined in s. 146.81 (1); an ambulatory surgery center as defined in s. 153.01 (1); a home health agency, as defined in s. 50.49 (1) (a); a home health aide, as defined in s. 146.40 (1) (bm); a hospice aide, as defined in s. 146.40 (1) (bp); a nurse's assistant, as defined in s. 146.40 (1) (d); an ambulance service provider, as defined in s. 146.50 (1) (c); an emergency medical technician, as defined in s. 146.50 (1) (e); a first responder, as defined in s. 146.50 (1) (hm); or any other person who is licensed, certified, approved, or registered to provide health care services, including mental health services.
 - 2. An individual who is enrolled in an education or training program that the individual must complete in order to obtain credentials required of an individual under subd. 1.
- 3. A person who is certified as a provider of medical assistance under s. 49.45(2) (a) 11.
 - 4. A parent organization, subsidiary, or affiliate of a person described under subd. 1. or 3.
- (d) "Quality improvement activity" means an evaluation, review, study, assessment, investigation, recommendation, monitoring, corrective action, adverse

5

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

- action, or any other action, which may include one-time, continuous, or periodic data collection, relating to any of the following subjects:

 1. The quality of care provided by a health care entity or the quality of services
 - 1. The quality of care provided by a health care entity or the quality of services provided by a health care entity that have an impact on care.
 - 2. Morbidity or mortality related to a health care entity.
- 3. The qualification, competence, conduct, or performance of a health careentity.
 - 4. The cost or use of health care services and resources of a health care entity.
 - 5. Compliance with applicable legal, ethical, or behavioral standards for a health care entity.
 - 6. Compliance with credentialing, accreditation, or regulatory standards for a health care entity and performance of credentialing, accreditation, or regulatory activities.
 - 7. The accreditation licensure, registration, certification, approval, or credentialing of a health care entity.
 - (e) "Records" includes minutes, files, notes, reports, statements, memoranda, databases, findings, work products, and images, regardless of the type of communications medium or form, including oral communications, and whether in statistical form or otherwise.
 - (f) "State agency" means a department, board, examining board, affiliated credentialing board, commission, independent agency, council, or office in the executive branch of state government.
 - (2) IMMUNITY FOR ACTS OR OMISSIONS. (a) No person acting in good faith who participates in a quality improvement activity to which sub. (3) applies is liable for

civil damages as a result of any act or omission by the person in the course of the quality improvement activity.

- (b) The good faith of any person participating in a quality improvement activity to which sub. (3) applies shall be presumed in any civil action. Any person who asserts that a person has not acted in good faith has the burden of proving that assertion by clear and convincing evidence.
- (3) CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVILEGE. (a) Except as provided in sub. (4), all of the following are confidential and privileged; are not subject to discovery, subpoena, or any other means of legal compulsion requiring release or permitting inspection, including compulsion by a state agency; and are not admissible as evidence in any civil, criminal, or other judicial or administrative proceeding:
- 1. Records and information contained in records that are created, collected, reported, aggregated, or organized by any person as part of a quality improvement activity that is conducted by any person, organization, department, governing body, or committee, including a committee with representatives from multiple persons, organizations, departments, or governing bodies, that is any of the following:
- a. A person that conducts a quality improvement activity as required or authorized by state or federal law, as a condition of accreditation, or under a bylaw, resolution, or policy; or another person who acts on that person's behalf. This subd.

 1. a. does not apply to a state agency.
- b. A person who is charged, authorized, or directed by a person described in subd. 1. a. to conduct the quality improvement activity.
- 2. A request for records or information made as part of a quality improvement activity described under subd. 1. by a person conducting the quality improvement activity.

4. has occurred.

1	3. Notice to a health care entity that the entity is or will be the subject of a
2	quality improvement activity described under subd. 1.
3	(b) Except as provided in sub. (4) (c) and (g), the confidentiality and privilege
4	afforded under par. (a) is not waived by unauthorized or authorized disclosure.
5	(c) Records described under par. (a) 1. are not subject to inspection or copying
6	under s. 19.35 (1).
7	(4) Exceptions to confidentiality and privilege. (a) Subsection (3) does not
8	apply to records or information created apart from a quality improvement activity
9	that are maintained by or for a health care entity for the particular purpose of
10	diagnosing, treating, or documenting care provided to an individual patient.
11	(am) Subsection (3) does not apply to the release to a state agency of records
12	or information created apart from a quality improvement activity that are
13	maintained by or for a health care entity for a purpose other than as specified under
14	par. (a), upon a showing by clear and convincing evidence that the records or
15	information are otherwise unavailable. (3)
16	(ar) Any person who testifies during or participates in a quality improvement
17)	activity may testify in any civil, criminal, or other judicial or administrative
18	proceeding as to information within his or her knowledge, but may not testify as to
19	information obtained solely through his or her participation in the quality
20	improvement activity and may not testify as to any conclusion of the quality
21	improvement activity.
22	(b) Subsection (3) does not prohibit disclosing that a reduction, restriction,
23	suspension, denial, revocation, or failure to renew any item under sub. (1) (a) 1. to

- (c) A person required by state or federal law to report may disclose a record or information from a record that is confidential and privileged under sub. (3), in order to make the required report. Subsection (3) does not apply to a record that is disclosed under this paragraph or to information in the record.
- (d) If a person takes an adverse action against a health care entity or notifies a health care entity of a proposed adverse action against the health care entity as part of a quality improvement activity to which sub. (3) applies, the person shall, upon request by the health care entity, disclose to the health care entity any records in the person's possession relating to the adverse action or proposed adverse action. Records relating to the adverse action are admissible in any criminal, civil, or other judicial or administrative proceeding in which the health care entity contests the adverse action. A person who has authority to take an adverse action against a health care entity as part of a quality improvement activity to which sub. (3) applies may at any time disclose to the health care entity records relating to a proposed adverse action against the health care entity.
- (e) A person under sub. (3) (a) 1. a. conducting a quality improvement activity may disclose the records and information that are confidential and privileged under sub. (3).
- (f) A person under sub. (3) (a) 1. b. conducting a quality improvement activity may disclose the records and information that are confidential and privileged under sub. (3) if there is written authorization to make the disclosure from whoever charged, authorized, or directed the person to conduct the quality improvement activity.
- (g) The confidentiality and privilege afforded to records under sub. (3) does not apply to records that are disclosed to the general public under par. (e) or (f).

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

- (h) A person planning an activity that would be a quality improvement activity may in advance of the activity designate in writing that sub. (3) does not apply to the records and information created, collected, reported, aggregated, or organized by any person as part of the designated activity. (5) Any person who discloses information or releases a record in violation of sub. (3), other than through a good faith mistake, is civilly liable to any person harmed by the disclosure or release. CONSTRUCTION. This section shall be liberally construed in favor of identifying records and information as confidential, privileged, and inadmissible as evidence. **Section 3.** 146.55 (7) of the statutes is amended to read: 146.55 (7) Insurance. A physician who participates in an emergency medical services program under this section or as required under s. 146.50 shall purchase health care liability insurance in compliance with subch. III of ch. 655, except for those acts or omissions of a physician who, as a medical director, reviews as defined in s. 146.50 (1) (j), conducts a quality improvement activity relating to the performance of emergency medical technicians or ambulance service providers, as specified under s. 146.37 (1g) 146.38 (2). **Section 4.** 187.33 (3) (a) 5. of the statutes is amended to read: 187.33 (3) (a) 5. Proceedings based upon a cause of action for which the volunteer is immune from liability under s. 146.31 (2) and (3), 146.37 146.38 (2),
 - **SECTION 5.** 187.43 (3) (a) 5. of the statutes is amended to read:

895.44, 895.48, 895.482, 895.51, or 895.52.

187.43 **(3)** (a) 5. Proceedings based upon a cause of action for which the volunteer is immune from liability under s. 146.31 (2) and (3), 146.37 146.38 (2), 895.44, 895.48, 895.482, 895.51, or 895.52.

Section 6. 655.27 (1m) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

655.27 (1m) (b) A health care provider who engages in the activities described in s. 146.37 (1g) and (3) a quality improvement activity under 146.38 shall be liable for not more than the limits expressed under s. 655.23 (4) or the maximum liability limit for which the health care provider is insured, whichever limit is greater, if he or she is found to be liable under s. 146.37 146.38, and the fund shall pay the excess amount, unless the health care provider is found not to have acted in good faith during those activities and the failure to act in good faith is found by the trier of fact, by clear and convincing evidence, to be both malicious and intentional.

Section 7. 655.27 (5) (a) 1. and 2. of the statutes are amended to read:

655.27 (5) (a) 1. Any person may file a claim for damages arising out of the rendering of medical care or services or participation in peer review activities a quality improvement activity under s. 146.37 146.38 within this state against a health care provider or an employee of a health care provider. A person filing a claim may recover from the fund only if the health care provider or the employee of the health care provider has coverage under the fund, the fund is named as a party in the action, and the action against the fund is commenced within the same time limitation within which the action against the health care provider or employee of the health care provider must be commenced.

2. Any person may file an action for damages arising out of the rendering of medical care or services or participation in peer review activities a quality review activity under s. 146.37 146.38 outside this state against a health care provider or

an employee of a health care provider. A person filing an action may recover from the fund only if the health care provider or the employee of the health care provider has coverage under the fund, the fund is named as a party in the action, and the action against the fund is commenced within the same time limitation within which the action against the health care provider or employee of the health care provider must be commenced. If the rules of procedure of the jurisdiction in which the action is brought do not permit naming the fund as a party, the person filing the action may recover from the fund only if the health care provider or the employee of the health care provider has coverage under the fund and the fund is notified of the action within 60 days of service of process on the health care provider or the employee of the health care provider. The board of governors may extend this time limit if it finds that enforcement of the time limit would be prejudicial to the purposes of the fund and would benefit neither insureds nor claimants.

Barman, Mike

From:

Barman, Mike

Sent:

To: Subject:

Wednesday, February 15, 2006 1:34 PM Rep.Underheim LRBs0538/3 (attached - reuested by Randy)

Attachments:

05s0538/3

requested



05s05383.pdf (33 KB)

Kennedy, Debora

From:

Thorson, Randy

Sent:

Wednesday, February 15, 2006 4:02 PM

To:

Kennedy, Debora

Subject:

FW: Assembly Bill 993 Final Draft?

Debora,

Here it is and thank you for your help.

RAT

PS-Stripes are on the way.

From: Sweet, Richard

Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2006 3:39 PM **To:** Thorson, Randy; Callisto, Eric - DRL **Subject:** RE: Assembly Bill 993 Final Draft?

Good catch, Eric. There needs to be a comma there.

Dick

From:

Thorson, Randy

Sent:

Wednesday, February 15, 2006 3:35 PM

To: Cc: Callisto, Eric - DRL; Rep. Underheim; Sweet, Richard; Leitch, Laura; Stanford, Matthew

Berndt, Michael; Martin, Larry - DRL; Gloe, Steve

Subject:

RE: Assembly Bill 993 Final Draft?

Dick,

Could you check on the comma for me?

Thanks
Randy Thorson
Health Committee Clerk

From: Callisto, Eric - DRL

Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2006 3:34 PM

To: Rep.Underheim; Sweet, Richard; Leitch, Laura; Stanford, Matthew

Cc: Berndt, Michael; Martin, Larry - DRL; Gloe, Steve

Subject: RE: Assembly Bill 993 Final Draft?

I have not read it through to do a side-by-side with the last version. However, it does contain the three last corrections and suggestions made by WHA and/or DRL. I note that there appears to be a missing comma at page 3, line 14, after the word "accreditation". Assuming no other changes were made to the text, I am fine with this version.

Thanks to all who pitched in.

----Original Message----

From:

Rep.Underheim [mailto:Gregg.Underheim@legis.state.wi.us]

Sent:

Wednesday, February 15, 2006 2:00 PM

To:

Sweet, Richard; Leitch, Laura; Stanford, Matthew; Callisto, Eric - DRL

Subject:

Assembly Bill 993 Final Draft?

Good Afternoon,

Here is the latest in the AB 993 modifications (incorporates errors pointed out by WHA and request by DRL):

<< File: 05s0538/3 >>

Please look over the draft and let me know if it is ready to be moved forward.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

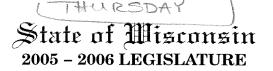
I am not holding my breath, but I do have my fingers crossed.

Have a nice afternoon.

Randy



10

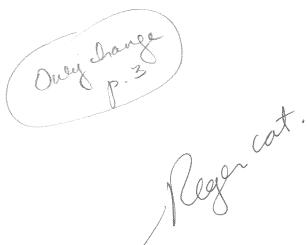


LRBs0538/\$\(\mathcal{L}\) DAK&RLR:cjs:

stays

ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT,

TO 2005 ASSEMBLY BILL 993



AN ACT to repeal 146.37; to amend 146.55 (7), 187.33 (3) (a) 5., 187.43 (3) (a)
5., 655.27 (1m) (b) and 655.27 (5) (a) 1. and 2.; and to repeal and recreate
146.38 of the statutes; relating to: confidentiality of health care review records
and immunity.

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

- 5 Section 1. 146.37 of the statutes is repealed.
- 6 Section 2. 146.38 of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:
- 7 **146.38 Health care quality improvement activity. (1)** DEFINITIONS. In this section:
 - (a) "Adverse action" means any action or recommendation to reduce, restrict, suspend, deny, revoke, or fail to renew any of the following:
- 1. A health care entity's clinical privileges or clinical practice authority at a hospital or other health care entity.

2

3

4

5

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

21

22

23

- 2. A health care entity's membership on a medical staff that is organized under bv-laws or in another health care entity.
- 3. A health care entity's participation in a defined network plan, as defined in s. 609.01 (1b).
- The credentialing, accreditation, licensure, registration, approval, or 6 certification of a health care entity.
 - (b) "Health care entity" means any of the following:
 - 1. A health care provider, as defined in s. 146.81 (1); an ambulatory surgery center as defined in s. 153.01 (1); a home health agency, as defined in s. 50.49 (1) (a); a home health aide, as defined in s. 146.40 (1) (bm); a hospice aide, as defined in s. 146.40 (1) (bp); a nurse's assistant, as defined in s. 146.40 (1) (d); an ambulance service provider, as defined in s. 146.50 (1) (c); an emergency medical technician, as defined in s. 146.50 (1) (e); a first responder, as defined in s. 146.50 (1) (hm); or any other person who is licensed, certified, approved, or registered to provide health care services, including mental health services.
 - 2. An individual who is enrolled in an education or training program that the individual must complete in order to obtain credentials required of an individual under subd. 1.
- 19 3. A person who is certified as a provider of medical assistance under s. 49.45 20 (2) (a) 11.
 - 4. A parent organization, subsidiary, or affiliate of a person described under subd. 1. or 3.
 - "Quality improvement activity" means an evaluation, review, study, assessment, investigation, recommendation, monitoring, corrective action, adverse

1	action, or any other action, which may include one-time, continuous, or periodic data
2	collection, relating to any of the following subjects:
3	1. The quality of care provided by a health care entity or the quality of services
4	provided by a health care entity that have an impact on care.
5	2. Morbidity or mortality related to a health care entity.
6	3. The qualification, competence, conduct, or performance of a health care
7	entity.
8	4. The cost or use of health care services and resources of a health care entity.
9	5. Compliance with applicable legal, ethical, or behavioral standards for a
10	health care entity.
11	6. Compliance with credentialing, accreditation, or regulatory standards for a
12	health care entity and performance of credentialing, accreditation, or regulatory
13	activities.
14	7. The accreditation licensure, registration, certification, approval, or
15	credentialing of a health care entity.
16	(e) "Records" includes minutes, files, notes, reports, statements, memoranda,
17	databases, findings, work products, and images, regardless of the type of
18	communications medium or form, including oral communications, and whether in
19	statistical form or otherwise.
20	(f) "State agency" means a department, board, examining board, affiliated
21	credentialing board, commission, independent agency, council, or office in the
22	executive branch of state government.
23	(2) Immunity for acts or omissions. (a) No person acting in good faith who

participates in a quality improvement activity to which sub. (3) applies is liable for

civil damages as a result of any act or omission by the person in the course of the quality improvement activity.

- (b) The good faith of any person participating in a quality improvement activity to which sub. (3) applies shall be presumed in any civil action. Any person who asserts that a person has not acted in good faith has the burden of proving that assertion by clear and convincing evidence.
- (3) CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVILEGE. (a) Except as provided in sub. (4), all of the following are confidential and privileged; are not subject to discovery, subpoena, or any other means of legal compulsion requiring release or permitting inspection, including compulsion by a state agency; and are not admissible as evidence in any civil, criminal, or other judicial or administrative proceeding:
- 1. Records and information contained in records that are created, collected, reported, aggregated, or organized by any person as part of a quality improvement activity that is conducted by any person, organization, department, governing body, or committee, including a committee with representatives from multiple persons, organizations, departments, or governing bodies, that is any of the following:
- a. A person that conducts a quality improvement activity as required or authorized by state or federal law, as a condition of accreditation, or under a bylaw, resolution, or policy; or another person who acts on that person's behalf. This subd.

 1. a. does not apply to a state agency.
- b. A person who is charged, authorized, or directed by a person described in subd. 1. a. to conduct the quality improvement activity.
- 2. A request for records or information made as part of a quality improvement activity described under subd. 1. by a person conducting the quality improvement activity.

- 3. Notice to a health care entity that the entity is or will be the subject of a quality improvement activity described under subd. 1.
- (b) Except as provided in sub. (4) (c) and (g), the confidentiality and privilege afforded under par. (a) is not waived by unauthorized or authorized disclosure.
- (c) Records described under par. (a) 1. are not subject to inspection or copying under s. 19.35 (1).
- (4) EXCEPTIONS TO CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVILEGE. (a) Subsection (3) does not apply to records or information created apart from a quality improvement activity that are maintained by or for a health care entity for the particular purpose of diagnosing, treating, or documenting care provided to an individual patient.
- (am) Subsection (3) does not apply to the release to a state agency of records or information created apart from a quality improvement activity that are maintained by or for a health care entity for a purpose other than as specified under par. (a), upon a showing by clear and convincing evidence that the records or information are otherwise unavailable.
- (ar) Any person who testifies during or participates in a quality improvement activity to which sub. (3) applies may testify in any civil, criminal, or other judicial or administrative proceeding as to information within his or her knowledge, but may not testify as to information obtained solely through his or her participation in the quality improvement activity and may not testify as to any conclusion of the quality improvement activity.
- (b) Subsection (3) does not prohibit disclosing that a reduction, restriction, suspension, denial, revocation, or failure to renew any item under sub. (1) (a) 1. to 4. has occurred.

- (c) A person required by state or federal law to report may disclose a record or information from a record that is confidential and privileged under sub. (3), in order to make the required report. Subsection (3) does not apply to a record that is disclosed under this paragraph or to information in the record.
- (d) If a person takes an adverse action against a health care entity or notifies a health care entity of a proposed adverse action against the health care entity as part of a quality improvement activity to which sub. (3) applies, the person shall, upon request by the health care entity, disclose to the health care entity any records in the person's possession relating to the adverse action or proposed adverse action. Records relating to the adverse action are admissible in any criminal, civil, or other judicial or administrative proceeding in which the health care entity contests the adverse action. A person who has authority to take an adverse action against a health care entity as part of a quality improvement activity to which sub. (3) applies may at any time disclose to the health care entity records relating to a proposed adverse action against the health care entity.
- (e) A person under sub. (3) (a) 1. a. conducting a quality improvement activity may disclose the records and information that are confidential and privileged under sub. (3).
- (f) A person under sub. (3) (a) 1. b. conducting a quality improvement activity may disclose the records and information that are confidential and privileged under sub. (3) if there is written authorization to make the disclosure from whoever charged, authorized, or directed the person to conduct the quality improvement activity.
- (g) The confidentiality and privilege afforded to records under sub. (3) does not apply to records that are disclosed to the general public under par. (e) or (f).

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

895.44, 895.48, 895.482, 895.51, or 895.52.

(h) A person planning an activity that would be a quality improvement activity may in advance of the activity designate in writing that sub. (3) does not apply to the records and information created, collected, reported, aggregated, or organized by any person as part of the designated activity. (5) Any person who discloses information or releases a record in violation of sub. (3), other than through a good faith mistake, is civilly liable to any person harmed by the disclosure or release. This section shall be liberally construed in favor of Construction. identifying records and information as confidential, privileged, and inadmissible as evidence. **SECTION 3.** 146.55 (7) of the statutes is amended to read: 146.55 (7) Insurance. A physician who participates in an emergency medical services program under this section or as required under s. 146.50 shall purchase health care liability insurance in compliance with subch. III of ch. 655, except for those acts or omissions of a physician who, as a medical director, reviews as defined in s. 146.50 (1) (j), conducts a quality improvement activity relating to the performance of emergency medical technicians or ambulance service providers, as specified under s. 146.37 (1g) 146.38 (2). **SECTION 4.** 187.33 (3) (a) 5. of the statutes is amended to read: 187.33 (3) (a) 5. Proceedings based upon a cause of action for which the volunteer is immune from liability under s. 146.31 (2) and (3), 146.37 146.38 (2),

SECTION 5. 187.43 (3) (a) 5. of the statutes is amended to read:

187.43 (3) (a) 5. Proceedings based upon a cause of action for which the volunteer is immune from liability under s. 146.31 (2) and (3), 146.37 146.38 (2), 895.44, 895.48, 895.482, 895.51, or 895.52.

Section 6. 655.27 (1m) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

655.27 (1m) (b) A health care provider who engages in the activities described in s. 146.37 (1g) and (3) a quality improvement activity under 146.38 shall be liable for not more than the limits expressed under s. 655.23 (4) or the maximum liability limit for which the health care provider is insured, whichever limit is greater, if he or she is found to be liable under s. 146.37 146.38, and the fund shall pay the excess amount, unless the health care provider is found not to have acted in good faith during those activities and the failure to act in good faith is found by the trier of fact, by clear and convincing evidence, to be both malicious and intentional.

Section 7. 655.27 (5) (a) 1. and 2. of the statutes are amended to read:

655.27 (5) (a) 1. Any person may file a claim for damages arising out of the rendering of medical care or services or participation in peer review activities a quality improvement activity under s. 146.37 146.38 within this state against a health care provider or an employee of a health care provider. A person filing a claim may recover from the fund only if the health care provider or the employee of the health care provider has coverage under the fund, the fund is named as a party in the action, and the action against the fund is commenced within the same time limitation within which the action against the health care provider or employee of the health care provider must be commenced.

2. Any person may file an action for damages arising out of the rendering of medical care or services or participation in peer review activities a quality review activity under s. 146.37 146.38 outside this state against a health care provider or

an employee of a health care provider. A person filing an action may recover from the fund only if the health care provider or the employee of the health care provider has coverage under the fund, the fund is named as a party in the action, and the action against the fund is commenced within the same time limitation within which the action against the health care provider or employee of the health care provider must be commenced. If the rules of procedure of the jurisdiction in which the action is brought do not permit naming the fund as a party, the person filing the action may recover from the fund only if the health care provider or the employee of the health care provider has coverage under the fund and the fund is notified of the action within 60 days of service of process on the health care provider or the employee of the health care provider. The board of governors may extend this time limit if it finds that enforcement of the time limit would be prejudicial to the purposes of the fund and would benefit neither insureds nor claimants.