February 9, 2007 – Introduced by Senators ROESSLER, CARPENTER, DARLING, MILLER, HARSDORF and LEIBHAM, cosponsored by Representatives TOWNSEND, KAUFERT, BIES, HAHN, JESKEWITZ, WOOD, LOTHIAN, ALBERS and A. OTT. Referred to Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy.

An Act to repeal 46.277 (5) (g) 3.; and to amend 46.277 (5) (g) 1. of the statutes; relating to: diversions under a community integration program of Medical Assistance−eligible persons from imminent entry into nursing homes.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) provides home or community−based care, under a waiver of federal Medicaid laws, to Medical Assistance (MA) recipients who are relocated from nursing homes or who meet MA level of care requirements for nursing home care. The community integration program under which this care is provided is commonly known as “CIP II.” Under part of CIP II, DHFS is authorized to pay an enhanced rate for MA services for persons who, on or after July 27, 2005, either are relocated from a nursing home or meet MA level of care requirements and are diverted from imminent entry into a nursing home, if the total number of persons served does not exceed the number of delicensed nursing home beds. Payment of the enhanced rate for persons who are diverted from imminent entry into a nursing home is limited to 150 persons, but, if it is likely that the number of persons so diverted will exceed 150, DHFS may submit a request to the Joint Committee on Finance (JCF) of the legislature, under a passive review process, for approval to expand the number of that category of persons served.

This bill eliminates the limitation on the number of persons who meet MA level of care requirements and are diverted from imminent entry into a nursing home and for whom an enhanced rate of payment for MA services may be made under CIP II.
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The bill also eliminates authority for DHFS to submit a request to JCF for approval to expand the number of that category of persons served. 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:

SECTION 1. 46.277 (5) (g) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

46.277 (5) (g) 1. The department may provide enhanced reimbursement for services provided under this section to an individual who, on or after July 27, 2005, is relocated to the community from a nursing home by a county department or to an individual who meets the level of care requirements for Medical Assistance reimbursement in a skilled nursing facility or an intermediate care facility and is diverted from imminent entry into a nursing home. Except as provided in subd. 3., the number of individuals served under this paragraph may not exceed the number of nursing home beds that are delicensed as part of plans submitted by nursing homes and approved by the department, and the number of individuals diverted from imminent entry into a nursing home may not exceed 150.

SECTION 2. 46.277 (5) (g) 3. of the statutes is repealed.