AN ACT to repeal 254.11 (8r); and to amend 49.46 (2) (b) 13., 254.11 (8u), 254.15 (1), 254.151 (2), 254.164 (4), 254.166 (2) (b) and 254.168 (intro.) of the statutes; relating to: replacing the term lead inspection with the term lead investigation with respect to the level of lead in certain premises (suggested as remedial legislation by the Department of Health and Family Services).

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Currently, the Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) must develop and implement a comprehensive statewide lead poisoning or lead exposure prevention and treatment program that, among other things, includes lead inspection requirements that DHFS must promulgate as rules. DHFS must also promulgate rules that establish standards for the care coordination and follow-up of children under six years of age with lead poisoning or lead exposure, including lead inspections of all or part of a child’s dwelling or other dwellings or premises that may have contributed to the child’s lead poisoning or lead exposure.

Also under current law, after consulting with a technical advisory committee, DHFS may promulgate rules that require periodic lead inspections of or a demonstration that no lead hazard is present at a foster home, group home, shelter care facility, day care provider, day care center, nursery school, kindergarten, or other facility that serves children under six years of age. “Lead management activity” is defined as a lead inspection or the design or management of lead hazard reduction. DHFS is authorized to promulgate rules to establish certification
requirements for the performance or supervision of the performance of lead hazard reduction or lead management activities. Training courses in lead hazard reduction or lead management activities must be accredited by DHFS.

Currently, after being notified that a child under the age of six has blood lead poisoning or lead exposure, DHFS or a local health department that DHFS designates as its agent may request admission to the child’s dwelling to conduct a lead investigation; however, if DHFS is notified that a child under the age of six has an elevated lead blood level, DHFS or the agent must conduct a lead investigation of the dwelling. If DHFS or the agent determines that a lead hazard is present, DHFS or the agent may, among other things, inform a local health officer of the results of a lead inspection. “Lead inspection” is defined as the inspection of a dwelling or premises for the presence of lead. “Lead investigation” is defined as a measure or set of measures designed to identify the presence of lead or lead hazards.

Lastly, under current law, care coordination and follow-up services, including lead inspections, are provided for Medical Assistance program recipients who have lead poisoning or lead exposure. DHFS also must award grants to provide lead poisoning or lead exposure screening, care coordination, and follow-up services, including lead inspections, to children under age six who are not covered by a third-party payer.

This bill eliminates the definition of the term “lead inspection” and replaces that term with the term “lead investigation” throughout the statutes that currently refer to lead inspections. The bill removes reference to an obsolete date.

For further information, see the NOTES provided by the Law Revision Committee of the Joint Legislative Council.

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

LAW REVISION COMMITTEE PREFATORY NOTE: This bill is a remedial legislation proposal, requested by the Department of Health and Family Services and introduced by the Law Revision Committee under s. 13.83 (1) (c) 4., stats. After careful consideration of the various provisions of the bill, the Law Revision Committee has determined that this bill makes minor substantive changes in the statutes, and that these changes are desirable as a matter of public policy.

SECTION 1. 49.46 (2) (b) 13. of the statutes is amended to read:

49.46 (2) (b) 13. Care coordination and follow-up, including lead investigations, as defined in s. 254.11 (8s), of persons having lead poisoning or lead exposure, as defined in s. 254.11 (9), including lead inspections.

NOTE: Updates terminology in the statute relating to Medical Assistance reimbursement for care coordination and follow-up of persons having lead poisoning or exposure, to refer to “lead investigations” rather than “lead inspections”.

SECTION 2. 254.11 (8r) of the statutes is repealed.
NOTE: Repeals a reference to “lead inspection”. This term is encompassed in the broader term “lead investigation” which is defined in s. 254.11 (8s) of the statutes.

SECTION 3. 254.11 (8u) of the statutes is amended to read:

254.11 (8u) “Lead management activity” means a lead inspection investigation or the design or management of lead hazard reduction.

SECTION 4. 254.15 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

254.15 (1) Develop and implement a comprehensive statewide lead poisoning or lead exposure prevention and treatment program that includes lead poisoning or lead exposure prevention grants under s. 254.151; any childhood lead poisoning screening requirement under rules promulgated under ss. 254.158 and 254.162; any requirements regarding care coordination and follow-up for children with lead poisoning or lead exposure required under rules promulgated under s. 254.164; responses to reports of lead poisoning or lead exposure under s. 254.166; any lead investigation requirements under rules promulgated under ss. 254.167; any lead inspection requirements under rules promulgated under and 254.168; any lead hazard reduction requirements under rules promulgated under s. 254.172; certification, accreditation and approval requirements under ss. 254.176 and 254.178; any certification requirements and procedures under rules promulgated under s. 254.179; and any fees imposed under s. 254.181.

SECTION 5. 254.151 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

254.151 (2) To fund lead poisoning or lead exposure screening, care coordination and follow-up services, including lead inspections investigations, to children under age 6 who are not covered by a 3rd-party payer.

SECTION 6. 254.164 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:
254.164 (4) A lead inspection investigation of all or part of the child’s dwelling or other dwellings or premises that may have contributed to the child’s lead poisoning or lead exposure.

SECTION 7. 254.166 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

254.166 (2) (b) Inform the local health officer of the results of the lead inspection investigation and provide recommendations to reduce or eliminate the lead hazard.

SECTION 8. 254.168 (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

254.168 Lead inspections investigations of facilities serving children under 6 years of age. (intro.) Subject to the limitation under s. 254.174, the department may promulgate rules that, after June 30, 1998, require any of the following facilities to have periodic lead inspections investigations at intervals determined by the department or to otherwise demonstrate that the facility does not contain a lead hazard, if any part of the facility was constructed before January 1, 1978:

NOTE: These sections delete the term “lead inspection” in chapter 254 of the statutes, relating to toxic substances, and replaces it with the term “lead investigation”, which is a broader term which encompasses lead inspections.