



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2009 Senate Bill 80

**Senate
Amendment 1**

Memo published: October 5, 2009

Contact: Laura D. Rose, Deputy Director (266-9791)

Current Law

Currently, under the Volunteer Health Care Provider Program (program), the state indemnifies certain health care providers who provide health care services for a nonprofit agency or elementary school free of charge or, in the case of some dental services, for a discounted fee. The following people may become volunteer health care providers under the program: physicians, dentists, dental hygienists, registered nurses, practical nurses, nurse-midwives, optometrists, physician assistants, pharmacists, dieticians, nurse practitioners, and pharmacy technicians. If a claim is brought against a volunteer health care provider for acts or omissions committed in the course of providing health care services under the program, the state must provide or pay for legal representation for the volunteer health care provider and must pay damages and costs awarded against the volunteer health care provider to the extent that legal representation, damages, and costs are not covered by any applicable insurance.

2009 Senate Bill 80

Senate Bill 80 requires the state to provide or pay for legal representation and pay damages and costs awarded against a volunteer health care provider in connection with a claim arising against the volunteer health care provider for acts or omissions committed in the course of providing volunteer health care services under the program, regardless of whether any applicable insurance covers the costs of legal representation, damages, or costs. The bill also allows chiropractors and physical therapists to become volunteer health care providers under the program.

Senate Amendment 1

Senate Amendment 1 adds podiatrists to the list of health care providers who can provide services under the volunteer health care provider program.

Legislative History

On September 23, 2009, the Senate Committee on Health, Health Insurance, Privacy, Property Tax Relief, and Revenue, recommended adoption of Senate Amendment 1 on a vote of Ayes 7, Noes 0; and recommended passage of the bill, as amended, by a vote of Ayes, 7; Noes, 0.

LDR:ty