

2015 DRAFTING REQUEST

Bill

Received: 10/2/2014 Received By: eshea
Wanted: As time permits Same as LRB:
For: Administration-Budget 266-2288 By/Representing: Major
May Contact: Drafter: eshea
Subject: Public Assistance - Wis works Addl. Drafters:
Extra Copies:

Submit via email: YES
Requester's email:
Carbon copy (CC) to: elisabeth.shea@legis.wisconsin.gov
sbostatlanguage@webapps.wi.gov
pam.kahler@legis.wisconsin.gov

Pre Topic:

DOA:.....Major, BB0105 -

Topic:

Expansion of Learnfare

Instructions:

See attached

Drafting History:

<u>Vers.</u>	<u>Drafted</u>	<u>Reviewed</u>	<u>Typed</u>	<u>Proofed</u>	<u>Submitted</u>	<u>Jacketed</u>	<u>Required</u>
/?	eshea 12/8/2014			_____			
/P1		kfollett 12/9/2014	jfrantze 12/9/2014	_____	sbasford 12/9/2014		State

FE Sent For:

<END>

2015 DRAFTING REQUEST

Bill

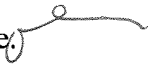
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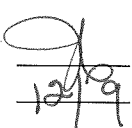
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/?	eshea	IP/ksf 12/9	IP/ksf 12/9	 12/9			

FE Sent For:

<END>

Shea, Elisabeth

From: Kahler, Pam
Sent: Tuesday, October 07, 2014 1:19 PM
To: Shea, Elisabeth
Subject: FW: drafts

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Lis,

Note that you should hold off on the Learnfare draft.

From: Major, Katrina L - DOA [mailto:Katrina.Major@wisconsin.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, October 07, 2014 1:11 PM
To: Kahler, Pam
Cc: Shea, Elisabeth; Kraus, Jennifer - DOA
Subject: RE: drafts

Hi Pam, yes to the still in flux, but it sounds like the part not related to minimum wage is out, so I wouldn't bother drafting that piece at this time.

I think for purposes of the draft on EITC, the first version could maybe just be eliminating the DCF piece for now? For example, I think the 49.175 allocation would go away then? But that way, we wouldn't get into the DOR piece of it yet? I'm not sure...otherwise you could just hold on this one for now...

Also, not sure which of you got this draft in the split, but I think the Learnfare one is probably not going to go forward (or if it does, it will be a more limited version), so probably don't spend time on that one right now.

Thanks!

Katie

From: Kahler, Pam [mailto:Pam.Kahler@legis.wisconsin.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, October 07, 2014 12:28 PM
To: Major, Katrina L - DOA
Subject: RE: drafts

Hi, Katy:

Lis and I divided up the W-2-related drafts. I've done one and I think the other two that I have need more info for drafting. For the "Statutory Authority for the W-2 Program," the second part related to minimum wage is clear enough, but the first part is not. I understand prescribing discretion to W-2 agencies through contracts, but there will be conflicts with current law that authorizes or requires W-2 agencies to do certain things. I need to know what decisions should be taken away from W-2 agencies, to be dealt with through the contracts. All decisions? In other words, every instance in ch. 49 where W-2 agency is mentioned?

The other request that is a bit vague is the one on using EITC funds for certain purposes. It seems uncertain whether the EITC is going to be eliminated and it seems that much of what is proposed can be done under current law. Any more explanation you can give would be helpful. Maybe this proposal is still in flux right now.

Thanks!

Pam

From: Major, Katrina L - DOA [<mailto:Katrina.Major@wisconsin.gov>]

Sent: Thursday, October 02, 2014 1:28 PM

To: Shea, Elisabeth; Kahler, Pam

Subject: drafts

Hi, I already mentioned to Gordon, but I'm putting some items in the system today that are very early in the process. I should have better guidance in the next week or two, but I wanted to send them over in case you want to get a jump on any of them. k

Kahler, Pam

From: Hanaman, Cathlene
Sent: Thursday, October 02, 2014 1:33 PM
To: Kahler, Pam
Subject: FW: Statutory Language Drafting Request - BB0105
Attachments: Enhancements to the Wisconsin Works Learnfare Program.pdf

You?

From: katrina.major@wisconsin.gov [mailto:katrina.major@wisconsin.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 02, 2014 1:31 PM
To: Hanaman, Cathlene
Cc: Kraus, Jennifer - DOA; Major, Katrina L - DOA; Connor, Christopher B - DOA
Subject: Statutory Language Drafting Request - BB0105

Biennial Budget: 2015-17

Topic: Enhancements to the W-2 Learnfare Program

Tracking Code: BB0105

SBO Team: GGCF

SBO Analyst: Major, Katrina L - DOA
Phone: 608-266-2288
E-mail: katrina.major@wisconsin.gov

Agency Acronym: DCF

Agency Number: 437

Priority: Medium

Intent:

Enhance Learnfare program by expanding Learnfare case management services to children of w-2 participants who have been unable to participate due to school-related problems, and provide student incentives and financial incentives to parents.

Attachments: True

Please send completed drafts to SBOSatlanguage@webapps.wi.gov

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
2015-17 Biennial Budget
White Paper

Issue: Enhancements to the Wisconsin Works (W-2) Learnfare Program

Background

Wisconsin statutes at s. 49.26 and Wisconsin Administrative Rule 101.25 outline the state's Learnfare program. Learnfare, a component of W-2, is intended to encourage children of W-2 participants to attend and succeed in school. When children attend school, they will have greater success as adults, including employment or participation in higher education.

Learnfare requires that W-2 agencies verify school enrollment for all school age children of W-2 participants, and that W-2 agencies provide case management services to families with a child in certain high risk groups. Groups for which participation in Learnfare case management is mandatory include:

1. Children between the ages of 6 and 17 who are not enrolled in school;
2. A dropout or returning dropout;
3. A habitual truant;
4. A minor parent.

A Learnfare Case Management plan is required for each family subject to Learnfare case management. The plan should address goals and activities, identify and integrate services from other agencies, and should have school involvement. For families who do not cooperate with Learnfare case management services, their W-2 assistance payment may be reduced by \$50 per child, not to exceed \$150 per month.

Proposal

The following proposal, which includes components of other successful programs for at risk youth, enhances the existing Learnfare program. This proposal would improve outcomes such as school attendance and improved academic achievement by expanding efforts to identify at risk youth, providing individualized, coordinated support to students, and providing incentives to students or families as follows:

1. Expand Learnfare case management services to Children of W-2 participants who have been unable to participate in W-2 activities due to school related problems.
2. Provide incentives to students who meet school attendance and other participation requirements included in their case management plan, e.g., meeting with a mentor or tutor.
3. Provide financial incentives (as opposed to financial penalties) to parents of youth who are successful in meeting school attendance and academic achievement benchmarks.

Learnfare case management could be provided by existing W-2 contractors, or DCF may choose to procure Learnfare case management services from different providers. To maximize resources and opportunity for coordination of services, contractors would be required to partner with community agencies such as the Boys and Girls Clubs, other mentoring programs, parent support groups, and school or local law enforcement staff that specialize in school attendance problems.

Other Programs Aimed at Improving Education Outcomes for At Risk Students

Nationally and internationally, other organizations have implemented programs to support at risk youth in achieving positive education outcomes. These programs are similar to Learnfare in that they provide a case management approach but differ from Learnfare in that they provide incentives to encourage positive school outcomes.

Pathways to Education: Pathways to Education is a youth support program developed to improve academic outcomes for youth who are entering high school and who reside in Regent Park, the largest public housing project in Toronto, Canada. The program includes proactive mentoring for each student, contact with parents to ensure academic success, daily tutoring, group activities, career counseling, and immediate and long-term incentives for participation. Students who meet participation requirements receive incentives in the form of bus tickets, as well as a long-term incentive. The long-term incentive is a trust fund for each participant. Participants can receive \$1,000 per year to be used for the cost of tuition and other post-secondary expenses. In an evaluation, participant outcomes were compared to students from other housing projects and results showed that high school graduation rates and post-secondary education enrollment rates for participants were higher, in some cases by 40%.

Oportunidades -Mexico's Conditional Cash Transfer Program: The program requires families to fulfill specific and verifiable conditions in order to receive a financial incentive. In Mexico, recipient households must assure that all school-aged children attend classes regularly and that all family members obtain specified health care. Data indicate that participation raises the school enrollment rate for 9- 15 year olds and lowers their rates of failing to be promoted to the next grade level. Participation also clearly increases the likelihood that a student will stay in school.

Check and Connect: Check and Connect is a dropout prevention program for kindergarten through high school age students who show warning signs of disengagement with school and are at risk of dropping out. Warning signs include poor attendance and low grades. Students are connected with an adult mentor who monitors the student's performance and meets on a weekly basis with students to help them solve problems, build skills and enhance their connectedness to the school experience. Mentors maintain contact with school personnel and family, and act as a liaison between home and school, to build constructive family-school relationships. Research shows that Check and Connect participation decreases truancy, tardiness, behavioral referrals, and dropout rates. Training and consultation to implement Check and Connect is available through the University of Minnesota. The program has been implemented by schools and organizations throughout the U.S. and abroad including the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. The Green Bay Boys and Girls Club implemented the program through a grant in the 2013-15 Biennial Budget.

Fiscal Implications

The following costs may be incurred under this proposal:

1. Cash or other incentives to parents and youth;
2. Performance payments that contractors could earn based on the number of families receiving Learnfare case management services who meet Learnfare participation benchmarks and school attendance and achievement requirements.

Shea, Elisabeth

From: Major, Katrina L - DOA <Katrina.Major@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 04, 2014 12:24 PM
To: Shea, Elisabeth
Cc: Kraus, Jennifer - DOA
Subject: RE: learnfare

Hi Lis, yes, I think to the child and their family. I don't think they want a specific type of school-related problem listed...will it cause problems to do it generically like that? Thanks

From: Shea, Elisabeth [mailto:Elisabeth.Shea@legis.wisconsin.gov]
Sent: Thursday, December 04, 2014 11:41 AM
To: Major, Katrina L - DOA
Subject: RE: learnfare

Hi Katie,

Yes, I've got this one. Just to clarify, the case management expansion is to the child of a W-2 participant when the W-2 participant has been unable to participate in W-2 activities due to the child's school-related problems, correct? Also, do you have a sense of what types of school-related problems this is referring to?

Lis

From: Major, Katrina L - DOA [mailto:Katrina.Major@wisconsin.gov]
Sent: Thursday, December 04, 2014 9:20 AM
To: Shea, Elisabeth
Cc: Kraus, Jennifer - DOA
Subject: learnfare

Hi Lis, are you the drafter on the Learnfare draft? I have some additional info on that one...the draft will only expand Learnfare case management services to children of w-2 participants who have been unable to participate in w-2 activities due to school related problems. The draft will not include any of the incentive pieces now. Thanks (and sorry if I guessed the wrong drafter!)



CPS
Request
sheet
fixed

In 12/8/14

NOTE

Comp
pt
12/9

12/12

Don + Gen

DOA:.....Major, BB0105 – Expansion of Learnfare

FOR 2015-2017 BUDGET – NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

1 **AN ACT ...; relating to:** the budget.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

WISCONSIN WORKS

Under current law, the Learnfare program requires school age children of Wisconsin Works (W-2) participants, with some exceptions, to meet certain school enrollment standards. Current law requires certain individuals who are subject to the school attendance requirement to participate in case management provided under the Learnfare program, including minor parents, habitual truants, and dropouts. This bill also requires a child who is subject to the school attendance requirement and whose W-2 group includes an individual who has been unable to participate in W-2 activities due to the child's school-related problems to participate in case management provided under the Learnfare program.

For further information see the *state* 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:

2 **SECTION 1.** 49.141 (1) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

1 49.141 (1) DEFINITIONS. (intro.) As used in ss. 49.141 to 49.161 and 49.26:

✓

2 History: 1995 a. 289; 1997 a. 27, 41, 283; 1999 a. 9; 2001 a. 105, 109; 2003 a. 173; 2005 a. 443 s. 265; 2009 a. 28; 2013 a. 20, 226.

2 **SECTION 2.** 49.26 (1) (gm) 1. d. of the statutes is created to read:

3

3 49.26 (1) (gm) 1. d. A child whose Wisconsin works group includes a participant

4 under s. 49.147 (3), (4), or (5) who has been unable to participate in activities required

5 under s. 49.147 (3), (4), or (5) due to the child's school-related problems.

6

(END)

D-Note

**DRAFTER'S NOTE
FROM THE
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU**

LRB-0416/P1dn

EHS:...

of

Date

Katie:

Under current law, the Wisconsin Works definitions under s. 49.141 (1) do not apply to the Learnfare statute, s. 49.26[✓], even though that statute uses some of those terms (such as "Wisconsin Works group" and "participant"). In this draft I clarified that those definitions apply to s. 49.26[✓] as well. Let me know if you have any concerns with this.

Elisabeth Shea
Legislative Attorney
(608) 266-5446
elisabeth.shea@legis.wisconsin.gov

DRAFTER'S NOTE
FROM THE
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

LRB-0416/P1dn
EHS:kjfjf

December 9, 2014

Katie:

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Elisabeth Shea
Legislative Attorney
(608) 266-5446
elisabeth.shea@legis.wisconsin.gov



State of Wisconsin
2015 - 2016 LEGISLATURE



LRB-0416/P1
EHS:kjf:jf

DOA:.....Major, BB0105 – Expansion of Learnfare

FOR 2015-2017 BUDGET -- NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

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6 (END)