2015 ASSEMBLY BILL 1016

March 29, 2016 – Introduced by Representatives KOOYENGA, MURPHY, KREMER, GANNON and SKOWRONSKI. Referred to Committee on Children and Families.

1 AN ACT to amend 49.155 (3m) (a); and to create 49.155 (3m) (ac) of the statutes; relating to: payment of Wisconsin Shares child care subsidies.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires that, when the Department of Children and Families pays a child care subsidy for child care services under the Wisconsin Works program, commonly called Wisconsin Shares, and those services are provided to a program participant by the Young Men’s Christian Association or the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, DCF must pay or reimburse those organizations directly, rather than issuing the benefits to the program participant. Under current law, DCF may choose whether benefits are paid to the program participant or the child care provider.

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:

3 SECTION 1. 49.155 (3m) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 49.155 (3m) (a) The Except as provided in par. (ac), the department shall issue benefits directly to individuals who are eligible for subsidies under this section or pay or reimburse child care providers, county departments or agencies, or tribal
governing bodies for child care services under this section. The department may also
contract with and provide grants to private nonprofit agencies that provide child care
for children of migrant workers. The department may pay or reimburse a Wisconsin
Works agency for child care that the Wisconsin Works agency provides to the children
of Wisconsin Works participants and applicants or that the Wisconsin Works agency
arranges to meet immediate, short-term child care needs of participants prior to
authorization of a subsidy under sub. (1m).

**SECTION 2.** 49.155 (3m) (ac) of the statutes is created to read:

49.155 (3m) (ac) In distributing funds under par. (a) for child care services, the
department shall pay or reimburse the Young Men’s Christian Association and the
Boys and Girls Clubs of America for child care services provided under this section,
rather than issuing benefits directly to the individuals receiving the child care
services.