AN ACT to create 51.03 (6) of the statutes; relating to: mental health services in schools.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau
This bill prohibits the Department of Health Services (DHS) from requiring a mental health clinic or a licensed treatment professional to designate a school site as a clinic office in order to provide outpatient mental health services at the school. Currently, DHS administrative rules require clinics to provide outpatient mental health services only at their offices except where therapeutic reasons show it is appropriate to use an alternative location.

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

SECTION 1. 51.03 (6) of the statutes is created to read:

51.03 (6) (a) In this subsection, “licensed treatment professional” means a physician who has completed a residence in psychiatry; a psychologist or a private practice school psychologist licensed under ch. 455; a marriage and family therapist licensed under s. 457.10 or 457.11; a professional counselor licensed under s. 457.12
or 457.13; an advanced practice social worker granted a certificate under s. 457.08 (2); an independent social worker licensed under s. 457.08 (3); a clinical social worker licensed under s. 457.08 (4); or any of these individuals practicing under a currently valid training or temporary license or certificate granted under applicable provisions of ch. 457. “Licensed treatment professional” does not include an individual whose license or certificate is suspended, revoked, or voluntarily surrendered, or whose license or certificate is limited or restricted, when practicing in areas prohibited by the limitation or restriction.

(b) The department may not require a mental health clinic or an individual licensed treatment professional who is otherwise authorized to provide outpatient mental health services at a school to designate the school site as a clinic office in order to provide outpatient mental health services at a school.

(END)