2017 ASSEMBLY BILL 627

November 9, 2017 - Introduced by Representatives BERNIER, SANFELIPPO and KOLSTE, cosponsored by Senators MOULTON, VUKMIR and JOHNSON. Referred to Committee on Health.

AN ACT to amend 49.45 (24k) (a) 1.; and to create 49.45 (24k) (c) of the statutes; relating to: dental reimbursement pilot project in the Medical Assistance program.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill makes changes to the dental reimbursement pilot project in the Medical Assistance program. Under current law, the Department of Health Services is required to distribute moneys to increase the reimbursement rate for pediatric dental care and adult emergency dental services provided under the Medical Assistance program in Brown, Marathon, Polk, and Racine counties. The bill adds to the counties in the pilot project any other counties, as determined by DHS, where Medical Assistance recipients have the greatest need for pediatric dental care and adult emergency dental services if the moneys allocated for the reimbursement increase exceed $100,000 after providing the reimbursement increase for the specified pilot counties. The bill also requires DHS to submit a biennial report on the pilot project as described in the bill.

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

SECTION 1. 49.45 (24k) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:
49.45 (24k) (a) 1. Subject to approval of the federal department of health and human services under par. (b), the department, as a pilot project, shall distribute moneys allocated in each fiscal year to increase for the purpose of increasing the reimbursement rate under Medical Assistance for pediatric dental care and adult emergency dental services, as defined by the department, that are provided in Brown, Marathon, Polk, and Racine counties. If, after increasing the reimbursement rate for counties specified in this subdivision, the moneys allocated for this purpose exceed $100,000, the department shall increase the reimbursement rate under Medical Assistance for pediatric dental care and adult emergency dental services in other counties, as determined by the department, where Medical Assistance recipients have the greatest need for pediatric dental care and adult emergency dental services.

**SECTION 2.** 49.45 (24k) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

49.45 (24k) (c) No later than January 1, 2020, and biennially thereafter, the department shall submit a report to the chief clerk of each house of the legislature under s. 13.172 (2), each standing committee of the legislature with jurisdiction over health or public benefits under s. 13.172 (3), and the joint committee on finance that includes all of the following information on the pilot project under this subsection:

1. The number of Medical Assistance recipients who received services under the pilot program in total and specified by those who received pediatric care and who received adult emergency dental services.

2. An estimate of the potential reduction in health care costs and emergency department use by Medical Assistance recipients due to the pilot project.

3. The feasibility of continuing the pilot project and expanding the project in specific areas of the state or statewide.
4. The amount of moneys distributed under the pilot project and, if moneys allocated for the pilot project were not distributed, a summary on why the moneys were not distributed.

5. An analysis of Medical Assistance recipient populations who received services under the pilot project and populations who may benefit from the pilot project.

(END)