AN ACT to create 49.471 (4) (a) 4m. of the statutes; relating to: foster parent eligibility for the Medical Assistance program under BadgerCare Plus.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under the bill, a foster parent who is age 19 to 64, whose family income does not exceed 200 percent of the federal poverty line, and who is a foster parent of a child who is living in the home with the foster parent is eligible for the Medical Assistance program under the BadgerCare Plus program. BadgerCare Plus, as a Medical Assistance program, is jointly funded by the state and federal governments, meaning that the federal government would pay as federal financial participation a portion of the benefits for individuals eligible for BadgerCare Plus. Under the bill, the Department of Health Services, which administers the Medical Assistance and BadgerCare Plus programs, must request from the federal Department of Health and Human Services any approval required to implement the 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:

SECTION 1. 49.471 (4) (a) 4m. of the statutes is created to read:

49.471 (4) (a) 4m. a. Subject to subd. 4m. b., a foster parent who is at least 19 years of age but has not attained the age of 65, whose family income does not exceed
200 percent of the federal poverty line, and who is a foster parent of a child who is
living in the home with the foster parent.

b. The department shall request from the federal department of health and
human services approval of a state plan amendment, a waiver of federal Medicaid
law, or other approval request required by the federal government to provide services
to the individuals described under subd. 4m. a. Sections 20.940 and 49.45 (2t) do not
apply to a submission to the federal government under this subdivision.