2021 SENATE BILL 654

October 20, 2021 - Introduced by Senator RINGHAND, cosponsored by Representative CONLEY, by request of of a constituent, Jennifer Thompson. Referred to Committee on Health.

AN ACT to amend 46.286 (1) (a) (intro.) of the statutes; relating to: eligibility for Family Care for individuals who are deaf-blind.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill grants functional eligibility for Family Care—a program that provides community-based long-term care services—to people who are deaf-blind. Under current law, a person must meet certain criteria in order to be eligible for Family Care, including that the person is at least 18 years of age; the person has a physical or developmental disability or is a frail elder; and the person is both functionally and financially eligible based on the standards described in the statute. The bill adds an express provision that a person is functionally eligible for the Family Care program if the person is deaf-blind, as defined in the bill.

For further information see the state and local 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. 46.286 (1) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:
46.286 (1) (a) *Functional eligibility.* (intro.) A person is functionally eligible if the person is deaf-blind, as defined in 29 USC 1905, or if the person’s level of care need, as determined by the department or its designee, is either of the following: