



State of Wisconsin
2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

LRB-1570/P1
EAW:cdc

DOA:.....Bork, BB0373 - Sibling connections

FOR 2023-2025 BUDGET -- NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

AN ACT ...; relating to: the budget.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

CHILDREN

Grants to support foster parents and children

[2017 Wisconsin Act 260](#) established a one-year pilot program for DCF to distribute grants to counties, nonprofit organizations, and tribes for the purpose of supporting foster parents and providing normalcy for children in out-of-home care. This bill makes the grant program permanent and specifies that grants under the program may be distributed for the purpose of sibling reconnection.

Sibling connections scholarships

This bill requires DCF to provide scholarships to adopted children and their biological siblings who do not reside in the same household to attend programs together in order to build sibling connections.

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. 20.437 (1) (bg) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.437 (1) (bg) *Grants to support foster parents and children.* The amounts in the schedule for grants by the department of children and families under ~~2017 Wisconsin Act 260, section 3 s. 48.53.~~

SECTION 2. 20.437 (1) (dm) of the statutes is created to read:

20.437 (1) (dm) *Sibling connections scholarships.* The amounts in the schedule for the scholarship program under s. 48.483.

****NOTE: This SECTION involves a change in an appropriation that must be reflected in the revised schedule in s. 20.005, stats.

SECTION 3. 48.483 of the statutes is created to read:

48.483 Sibling connections scholarships. From the appropriation under s. 20.437 (1) (dm), the department shall award scholarships to adopted children and their biological siblings who do not reside in the same household to attend programs together in order to build sibling connections.

SECTION 4. 48.53 of the statutes is created to read:

48.53 Grants to support foster parents and children. From the appropriation account under s. 20.437 (1) (bg), the department shall distribute grants to counties, nonprofit organizations, or tribes for the purpose of supporting foster parents and providing normalcy for children in out-of-home care.

(END)