



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2013 Wisconsin Act 260
[2013 Assembly Bill 675]

**Evaluation and Referrals Related to
a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder**

2013 Wisconsin Act 260 relates to evaluation of infants for fetal alcohol spectrum disorder and referral of infants who have that condition for services and treatment.

Current Law

Current law authorizes certain individuals who suspect that an infant has controlled substances in the infant's bodily fluids because of the use of those substances by the infant's mother while she was pregnant with the infant, to refer the infant to a physician for testing of the infant's bodily fluids for those substances. The individuals authorized to make a referral include hospital employees providing health care, social workers, and juvenile court intake workers. If the physician makes certain findings, as specified in the statutes, the physician may test the infant for the controlled substances. If the test indicates that controlled substances are present, the condition must be reported and services and treatment for the infant and mother must be provided as specified under the Children's Code.

Act 260

Act 260 creates a similar, mandatory procedure for infants suspected of having a fetal alcohol spectrum disorder. The Act requires certain individuals who suspect that an infant has a fetal alcohol spectrum disorder to refer the infant to a physician for evaluation to diagnose whether the infant has a fetal alcohol spectrum disorder. The individuals required to make a referral include hospital employees providing health care, social workers, and juvenile court intake workers. If the physician finds that there is a serious risk that an infant has a fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, the physician must evaluate the infant to diagnose whether the infant has a fetal alcohol spectrum disorder. If the physician diagnoses that an infant has a

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.

fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, the condition must be reported and services and treatment for the infant and mother must be provided as specified under the Children's Code.

Effective date: Act 260 takes effect on April 10, 2014.

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April 10, 2014

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