



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2001 Senate Bill 231

Senate Amendment 1

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Senate Bill 231 requires the Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) to create a task force charged to develop a plan for the state centers for the developmentally disabled. The task force must include representatives from the following stakeholder groups and agencies:

1. The DHFS;
2. The Department of Veteran's Affairs;
3. The Department of Corrections;
4. The Governor's office;
5. The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees union and other labor groups;
6. Parents or guardians of current state center residents;
7. Former and current state center residents;
8. Advocates for persons with developmental disabilities;
9. The board member of an intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded;
10. Organizations that provide services to persons with developmental disabilities in the community;
11. County departments that provide services to persons with developmental disabilities.

The task force is charged with a plan to do all of the following:

1. Specify the future role of the state centers for the developmentally disabled, and the state, in providing services for persons with developmental disabilities;
2. Maximize the potential for independent living in the most appropriate setting for each person residing in the state centers, according to the person's wishes;
3. Define and recommend changes in the role of one or more of the state centers, including functioning other than as a center for the developmentally disabled;
4. Ensure the provision of quality community-based services for persons who can be relocated from the state centers; and
5. Provide for transitional employment opportunities and services for existing staff of the state centers, in the event that one or more of the state centers closes or take on new functions.

Senate Amendment 1 adds a representative from the Service Employees International union, District 1199 to the task force. The amendment specifies that the plan for the state centers must attempt to maximize the potential for independent living in the most appropriate setting and ensure quality care and services for each person residing in the state centers, according to the person's wishes. In addition, the amendment specifies that if the task force recommends closing a state center for the developmentally disabled, the plan must define and recommend changes in the role of one or more of the state centers, including functioning other than as a center for the developmentally disabled.

On January 23, 2002, the Senate Human Services and Aging Committee recommended adoption of Senate Amendment 1 on a vote of Ayes, 7; Noes, 0, and passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 7; Noes, 0.

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