Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO

Memo published: October 20, 2021



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2021 Assembly Bill 262

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1

2021 ASSEMBLY BILL 262

Current law requires health care facilities to report certain information about induced abortions performed at the facility each year. 2021 Assembly Bill 262 adds the following three items to the list of information about induced abortions that a facility must report to the Department of Health Services (DHS):

- The name of the facility.
- The sex of the aborted unborn child, if the sex is determinable by visual inspection.
- Whether the aborted unborn child had a fetal anomaly, and, if so, the nature of the anomaly.

Under current law, DHS must collect the information and publish an annual summary, without disclosing the name of a patient, physician, or facility. The bill removes confidentiality for the name of the facility, and requires DHS to include summaries of the induced abortion reporting for each facility.

ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 maintains the provisions from the bill and adds the following items to the list of information about induced abortions that a facility must report to DHS: the payment source; the number of previous induced abortions; the reason for the abortion; the type of contraceptive used before the pregnancy; any response actions taken if a child is born alive after an attempted abortion; and the disposition of the remains. Certain information about the physician who performed the abortion must also be reported, including the physician's medical specialty, number of abortions performed in the last calendar year, and rate of complications for abortions performed.

The substitute amendment also specifies that DHS must publish the annual summary of the collected information by March 1 each year, for the information from the previous calendar year.

Lastly, the substitute amendment requires DHS to include the reported induced abortion fetal anomaly information in its registry system for diagnosed birth defects.

BILL HISTORY

Representative Wichgers offered Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 on May 25, 2021. On October 19, 2021, the Assembly Committee on Health recommended adoption of the amendment on a vote of Ayes, 9; Noes, 3; and recommended passage of the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 10; Noes, 3.

MSK:jal