# Wisconsin Legislative Council

# AMENDMENT MEMO

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2021 Assembly Bill 729

#### **Assembly Amendment 1**

#### **2021 ASSEMBLY BILL 729**

The bill makes changes to the administrative rules related to home health agencies. Under current law, a home health agency is an organization that primarily provides skilled nursing and other therapeutic services on a visiting basis to persons in their homes. It must provide for supervision of services by a physician or a registered nurse, and maintain clinical records on patients, as provided in the statutes.

The bill modifies current administrative rules relating to home health agencies, as follows:

- Eliminates a requirement under current administrative rules that a home health agency establish a professional advisory body that advises the agency on professional issues.
- Authorizes a registered nurse or skilled therapist to make supervisory visits remotely under certain conditions.
- Extends the deadline for establishing an initial plan of care for a patient to within 120 hours of being accepted for care to a home health agency, as opposed to within 72 hours under the current administrative rules.

### **ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1**

The amendment retains the provision that eliminates the advisory body requirement. The amendment removes the remaining provisions of the bill, relating to remote supervisory visits and the deadline to establish an initial plan of care.

## **BILL HISTORY**

Representative Rozar introduced and Senator Ballweg cosponsored the bill on December 2, 2021, and it was referred to the Assembly Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care. On December 2, 2021, Representative Rozar offered Assembly Amendment 1. On January 12, 2022, the Assembly Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care held a public hearing. On February 2, 2022, the committee recommended adoption of the amendment, and passage of the bill, as amended, on votes of Ayes; 7, Noes, 0.

BL:jal