LRB-3795/1 GMM:wlj:kjf

## 1999 ASSEMBLY BILL 587

November 10, 1999 - Introduced by Joint Legislative Council. Referred to Committee on Children and Families.

AN ACT *to amend* 48.57 (3m) (a) and 48.57 (3n) (a) of the statutes; **relating to:**eligibility of second cousins for payments under the kinship care and long-term kinship care programs.

## Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill is explained in the PREFATORY NOTE provided by the joint legislative council in the bill.

For further information see the *state and local* 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:

PREFATORY NOTE: This bill was prepared for the American Indian study committee (AISC).

Under current law, if certain conditions are met, a county department of social services, a county department of human services or, in Milwaukee county, the department of health and family services, must make payments to certain relatives, other than a child's parents, who provide care and maintenance for the child (kinship care program and long-term kinship care program). For a description of the kinship care program and the long-term kinship care program, see memo no. 98-14 to the AISC, *Definition of "Relative" Under the Kinship Care Program and Long-Term Kinship Care Program; and Funding for Assessments Under the Kinship Care Program* (September 17, 1999).

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Currently, for purposes of eligibility for payments under the kinship care and long-term kinship care programs, "kinship care relative" and "long-term kinship care relative" are defined to mean a stepparent, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, first cousin, nephew, niece, aunt, uncle or any person of a preceding generation as denoted by the prefix of grand, great or great-great, whether by consanguinity, direct affinity or legal adoption, or the spouse of any of these persons, even if the marriage is terminated by death or divorce.

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This bill adds second cousins to the list of persons who are defined as a kinship care relative or a long-term kinship care relative and, thus, permits a second cousin of a child to receive payments for providing care and maintenance for the child under the kinship care and long-term kinship care programs.

**Section 1.** 48.57 (3m) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

48.57 (3m) (a) In this subsection, "kinship care relative" means a stepparent, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, first cousin, 2nd cousin, nephew, niece, aunt, uncle or any person of a preceding generation as denoted by the prefix of grand, great or great-great, whether by consanguinity, direct affinity or legal adoption, or the spouse of any person named in this paragraph, even if the marriage is terminated by death or divorce.

**Section 2.** 48.57 (3n) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

48.57 (3n) (a) In this subsection, "long-term kinship care relative" means a stepparent, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, first cousin, <u>2nd cousin</u>, nephew, niece, aunt, uncle or any person of a preceding generation as denoted by the prefix of grand, great or great-great, whether by consanguinity, direct affinity or legal adoption, or the spouse of any person named in this paragraph, even if the marriage is terminated by death or divorce.

15 (END)