



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
PROPOSED REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON
STRENGTHENING
WISCONSIN FAMILIES

February 8, 2010

PRL 2009-13

Special Committee on Strengthening Wisconsin Families

Prepared by:
Anne Sappenfield, Senior Staff Attorney, and Jessica Karls-Ruplinger, Staff Attorney
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PART I

KEY PROVISIONS

OF COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Special Committee on Strengthening Wisconsin Families recommends the following bill drafts to the Joint Legislative Council for introduction in the 2009-10 Session of the Legislature.

LRB-3558/1, Relating to Extended Juvenile Court Jurisdiction for Certain Foster Youth Under the Age of 21 Years

LRB-3558/1, relating to extended juvenile court jurisdiction for certain foster youth under the age of 21 years, permits certain foster youth who are in foster care when they reach the age of 18 years to request an agency to petition the court assigned to exercise jurisdiction under the Children's Code and the Juvenile Justice Code (juvenile court) to extend juvenile court jurisdiction until the foster youth reaches 21 years of age.

LRB-3559/1, Relating to Training for Foster Parents

LRB-3559/1, relating to training for foster parents:

- Requires foster parent training to be completed before the first child is placed with a foster parent and on an ongoing basis.
- Requires foster parent training to be available to kinship care relatives.
- Specifies topics that must be covered in the training.

LRB-3560/1, Relating to Creating Expectations for Foster Children and Foster Parents and Requiring the Exercise of Rule-Making Authority

LRB-3560/1, relating to creating expectations for foster children and foster parents and requiring the exercise of rule-making authority, requires the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to create expectations for foster children and foster parents by rule. The draft provides that a written copy of the expectations must be given to each foster child and foster parent and must be explained orally.

LRB-3561/1, Relating to Creating a Family Policy Board and Requiring Counties to Provide Prevention Resources

LRB-3561/1, relating to creating a family policy board and requiring counties to provide prevention resources, renames the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board as the Family Policy Board and expands its membership. The draft sets forth the duties and responsibilities of the Family Policy Board.

PART II

COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

Assignment

The Special Committee on Strengthening Wisconsin Families is a statutory committee created by 2005 Wisconsin Act 467. The committee will be in existence until its sunset date of December 31, 2010. During its existence, the committee is charged with studying the following:

- Ways to increase awareness of the importance of families in society and resolving social issues.
- The establishment of a state council to improve coordination among state agencies of programs that affect families; to set priorities for state agencies based on community and family needs; to consolidate funding for programs and services that affect families; and to encourage local communities to form local collaborative entities to coordinate, decrease duplication of, and streamline the delivery of services provided by public and private entities to families, children, and youth.
- Ways to target public moneys for family services and not individuals.
- Existing laws relating to strengthening families.
- Ways in which the results from the scientific study of attachment and brain development can be incorporated into public schools, day care centers, and homes.
- Child support and custody issues involving fathers, for the purpose of ensuring that fathers are appropriately engaged in the lives of their children.
- Changes to state agency rules, policies, guidelines, and procedures to strengthen families, reduce reliance on social service professionals for family support, and maximize community support for families.
- Identification of qualities held by successful Wisconsin families and recommendation of legislation to support those qualities.
- Changes to the state tax code to strengthen families and provide incentives to engage in family-supporting activities and services.
- Proposed legislation to create a reconciliation council that would seek to bridge cultural and religious differences among different cultural and religious groups.
- Identification of support of private sector initiatives to strengthen families.
- Ways in which local government services can be performed by volunteer groups of individuals and ways in which saved moneys currently spent for these services by local governments can be allocated to the volunteer groups.
- Health care.

The Joint Legislative Council established the Special Committee on Strengthening Wisconsin Families for 2008-10 and appointed the Co-Chairpersons by an April 9, 2008 mail ballot. For 2008-10, the committee was directed to develop recommendations to advise the new DCF on the administration of programs administered by the new department, to promote the integration of family services formerly administered by multiple departments.

Membership of the 2008-10 Special Committee, appointed by June 9, 2008 and January 8, 2009 mail ballots, consisted of two Senators, two Representatives, and 11 public members. A list of committee members is included as *Appendix 3* to this report.

Summary of Meetings

As of the date of this report, the Special Committee has held 11 meetings in Madison. The first eight meetings are summarized in RL 2009-05, *Special Committee on Strengthening Wisconsin Families* (July 27, 2009). The last three meetings were held on the following dates:

April 2, 2009
July 15, 2009
August 13, 2009

At the April 2, 2009 meeting, the committee discussed WLC: 0416/1, relating to creating bills of rights for foster children and foster parents; WLC: 0417/1, relating to training for foster parents; and WLC: 0424/P1, relating to extended court jurisdiction for certain foster youth under the age of 21 years.

The committee also heard testimony from Paul Stuiber, Deputy State Auditor for Program Evaluation, and Dean Swenson, Program Evaluation Director, Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB), relating to legislative audits regarding the child welfare system.

John Tuohy, Deputy Administrator, DCF, discussed the drafts before the committee and DCF's response to the LAB audits.

The committee also held a public hearing on issues related to the child welfare system in Milwaukee County, foster care, and training for foster parents. The testimony from the public hearing included testimony on the following issues:

- Bills of rights for foster children and foster parents.
- Training for foster parents, including the training provided by the Milwaukee Child Welfare Partnership for Professional Development.
- Training for foster children.
- Extending foster care to age 21.
- Stabilizing education for foster children, including coordination and collaboration between the child welfare system and the school system.
- Other models of education for children, including boarding schools.
- Requiring experience as a foster parent before becoming a treatment foster parent.
- Recognition of siblings as relative caregivers.
- Employment of foster children, including summer employment.
- Personal experiences with the child welfare system in Milwaukee County.

At the July 15, 2009 meeting, the committee received an update from DCF. Dick Schlimm, Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board, discussed the board's concerns regarding a bill draft to create a family policy board.

The committee discussed WLC: 0434/1, relating to training for child welfare case workers, and WLC: 0346/3, relating to creating a family policy board and requiring counties to provide prevention resources.

At the August 13, 2009 meeting, the committee received an update from DCF.

The committee discussed WLC: 0346/3, relating to creating a family policy board and requiring counties to provide prevention resources; WLC: 0416/2, relating to creating bills of rights for foster children and foster parents; 0417/3, relating to training for foster parents; and WLC: 0424/1, relating to extended court jurisdiction for certain foster youth under the age of 21 years. There was consensus to make changes to the drafts and to include them in a mail ballot for committee members.

PART III

RECOMMENDATIONS INTRODUCED BY THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

This part of the report provides background information on, and a description of, the drafts as recommended by the Special Committee on Strengthening Wisconsin Families.

LRB-3558/1, Relating to Extended Juvenile Court Jurisdiction for Certain Foster Youth Under the Age of 21 Years

Background

Under current law, a juvenile court order placing a child in foster care terminates when the child reaches 18 years of age.

The committee received testimony from former foster youth and from professionals who work with foster youth that extending foster care for young adults leaving the foster care system would be very beneficial to youth who chose to exercise that option.

The Draft

The draft permits certain foster youth who are in foster care when they reach the age of 18 years to request an agency to petition the juvenile court to extend juvenile court jurisdiction until the foster youth reaches 21 years of age.

The draft defines a foster youth as a person who is a resident of this state, is under 21 years of age, and reached the age of 18 while placed in a foster home or other out-of-home placement under a juvenile court order.

Under the draft, a foster youth may submit a request for extended juvenile court jurisdiction to the agency primarily responsible for providing services under the foster youth's dispositional order. If the agency determines that the foster youth may be eligible for extended court jurisdiction, the agency must petition the juvenile court to extend jurisdiction. The juvenile court may extend jurisdiction if the juvenile court finds that one of several conditions are met, such as that the youth is completing secondary education, is enrolled in a postsecondary institution, or is employed for at least 80 hours per month. The order for extended juvenile court jurisdiction terminates when the foster youth reaches 21 years of age or when the juvenile court finds that specified conditions are met.

The draft has an effective date of October 1, 2010.

LRB-3559/1, Relating to Training for Foster Parents

Background

2009 Wisconsin Act 28, the Biennial Budget Act, requires that all foster parents complete training in the care and support needs of foster children. DCF is required to monitor compliance with the training requirements and promulgate rules prescribing the training.

The committee received testimony from former foster youth regarding the need for training of foster parents. Committee members discussed the specific topics that the training should include and the need for training to be ongoing.

The Draft

The draft requires foster parent training to be completed before the first child is placed with a foster parent and on an ongoing basis. The training must be available to kinship care relatives. In addition, the training must include training in parenting skills; teaching and encouraging independent living skills; issues that may confront foster parents; child abuse and neglect prevention; the proper use of foster care payments; the availability of resources for foster parents in the local community; and other topics, as determined by DCF.

LRB-3560/1, Relating to Creating Expectations for Foster Children and Foster Parents and Requiring the Exercise of Rule-Making Authority

Background

The committee received testimony from former foster youth that they would like child welfare professionals and foster parents to recognize certain rights of foster children. Committee members concluded that foster parents should also have their expectations of the child welfare system set forth in the statute.

The Draft

The draft requires DCF to create expectations for foster children and foster parents by rule. Under the draft, a foster child or foster parent must receive a written copy of the applicable expectations in his or her primary language, if possible. The expectations must also be explained orally using language or means that ensure that the child or foster parent understands the meaning of the expectations. For a foster child, the oral explanation must also use language or means that are appropriate to the child's age and developmental level. The copy of the expectations given to a foster child or foster parent or materials accompanying the copy of the expectations must include relevant community-specific contact information and other information.

LRB-3561/1, Relating to Creating a Family Policy Board and Requiring Counties to Provide Prevention Resources

Background

Under current law, the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board is responsible for administering grants and other efforts for preventing child abuse and neglect.

Committee members discussed the merits of having a board with broader representation and with the broader mission of encouraging state and local coordination and collaboration to promote thriving families.

The Draft

This draft renames the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board as the Family Policy Board and expands its membership and duties. Under the draft, the board is chaired by the governor or lieutenant governor.

The board is required to promote the coordination of resources for families in order to achieve several goals, including children who are healthy and ready for school and families that are economically self-sufficient and in which children are safe. The board must also establish a policy for the state agencies with membership on the board that highest priority should be given to promoting

thriving families and healthy children through the provision of comprehensive, integrated resources based on community and family needs. The board is also required to make recommendations to the governor and the legislature relating to changes needed in state programs, policies, and funding levels to improve the coordination of programs that affect families; to set priorities for state agencies based on community and family needs; to consolidate funding; and to encourage communities to form local collaborative entities consisting of public and private providers to coordinate the provision of resources. The board is required to submit a report of its recommendations to the appropriate legislative standing committees and the governor by September 1 of each even-numbered year. Finally, the board must establish a system of communication between the board and local collaborative entities in order to more effectively provide resources for families, and identify requirements for counties to report to state agencies with membership on the board and instances in which those reporting requirements could be consolidated or eliminated.

The draft also requires DCF to assist counties in developing programs, policies, and resources that prevent delinquency, child abuse and neglect, mental illness, alcohol or other drug dependency, developmental disability, mental infirmity, and other forms of mental or social maladjustment (prevention resources). In addition, the draft requires counties to provide, either directly or through community agencies and within limits of available funding, prevention resources.

Appendix 1

Committee and Joint Legislative Council Votes

WLC: 0346/4, WLC: 0416/3, WLC: 0417/4, and WLC: 0424/2 were recommended by the Special Committee on Strengthening Wisconsin Families to the Joint Legislative Council for introduction in the 2009-10 Session of the Legislature. These drafts subsequently became LRB drafts LRB-3558/1, LRB-3559/1, LRB-3560/1, and LRB-3561/1.

Special Committee Vote

The Special Committee voted by a mail ballot, dated August 21, 2009, to recommend WLC: 0346/4, WLC: 0416/3, WLC: 0417/4, and WLC: 0424/2, to the Joint Legislative Council for introduction in the 2009-10 Session of the Legislature. The vote on the drafts were as follows:

- WLC: 0346/4 [LRB-3561/1], relating to creating a family policy board and requiring counties to provide prevention resources, passed by a vote of Ayes, 10 (Taylor, Kestell, Schultz, Albers, Angeli, Burgess, Howard, Rosenberg, Tittl, and Westman); Noes, 3 (Grigsby, Erdmann, and Montgomery); and Not Voting, 2 (Fields and Ray).
- WLC: 0416/3 [LRB-3560/1], relating to creating expectations for foster children and foster parents and rule-making, passed by a vote of Ayes, 13 (Taylor, Kestell, Schultz, Grigsby, Albers, Angeli, Burgess, Erdmann, Howard, Montgomery, Rosenberg, Tittl, and Westman); Noes, 0; and Not Voting, 2 (Fields and Ray).
- WLC: 0417/4 [LRB-3559/1], relating to training for foster parents, passed by a vote of Ayes, 13 (Taylor, Kestell, Schultz, Grigsby, Albers, Angeli, Burgess, Erdmann, Howard, Montgomery, Rosenberg, Tittl, and Westman); Noes, 0; and Not Voting, 2 (Fields and Ray).
- WLC: 0424/2 [LRB-3558/1], relating to extended court jurisdiction for certain foster youth under the age of 21 years, passed by a vote of Ayes, 13 (Taylor, Kestell, Schultz, Grigsby, Albers, Angeli, Burgess, Erdmann, Howard, Montgomery, Rosenberg, Tittl, and Westman); Noes, 0; and Not Voting, 2 (Fields and Ray).

Joint Legislative Council

[Joint Legislative Council Members Who Selected and Appointed Committee and Its Membership]

Co-Chair

FRED RISSER

Senate President
5008 Risser Road
Madison, WI 53705

Co-Chair

STEVE WIECKERT

Representative
1 Weatherstone Drive
Appleton, WI 54914

SENATORS

ROGER BRESKE

8800 Hwy. 29
Eland, WI 54427

RUSSELL DECKER

Majority Leader
6803 Lora Lee Lane
Weston, WI 54476

ALAN LASEE

2259 Lasee Road
De Pere, WI 54115

TIM CARPENTER

President Pro Tempore
2957 South 38th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53215

SCOTT FITZGERALD

Minority Leader
N4692 Maple Road
Juneau, WI 53039

MARK MILLER

4903 Roigan Terrace
Monona, WI 53716

SPENCER COGGS

3732 North 40th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53216

SHEILA HARSDORF

N6627 County Road E
River Falls, WI 54022

JUDY ROBSON

2411 E. Ridge Road
Beloit, WI 53511

ALBERTA DARLING

1325 West Dean Road
River Hills, WI 53217

REPRESENTATIVES

JOAN BALLWEG

170 W. Summit Street
Markesan, WI 53946

DEAN KAUFERT

1360 Alpine Lane
Neenah, WI 54956

MARK POCAN

309 N. Baldwin Street
Madison, WI 53703

JEFF FITZGERALD

Majority Leader
910 Sunset
Horicon, WI 53032

JIM KREUSER

Minority Leader
3505 14th Place
Kenosha, WI 53144

KITTY RHOADES

708 4th Street
Hudson, WI 54016

MARK GOTTLIEB

Speaker Pro Tempore
1205 Noridge Trail
Port Washington, WI 53074

THOMAS NELSON

1510 Orchard Dr.
Kaukauna, WI 54130

MARLIN SCHNEIDER

3820 Southbrook Lane
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

MICHAEL HUEBSCH

Speaker
419 West Franklin
West Salem, WI 54669

This 22-member committee consists of the majority and minority party leadership of both houses of the Legislature, the co-chairs and ranking minority members of the Joint Committee on Finance, and 5 Senators and 5 Representatives appointed as are members of standing committees.

Joint Legislative Council

[Current Joint Legislative Council Members Receiving Committee Report]

Co-Chair

FRED A. RISSER

Senate President

100 Wisconsin Avenue, Unit 501
Madison, WI 53703

Co-Chair

MARLIN D. SCHNEIDER

Representative

3820 Southbrook Lane
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

SENATORS

SPENCER COGGS

7819 W. Potomac Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53222

ALBERTA DARLING

1325 West Dean Road
River Hills, WI 53217

RUSSELL DECKER

Majority Leader

6803 Lora Lee Lane
Schofield, WI 54476

SCOTT FITZGERALD

Minority Leader

N4692 Maple Road
Juneau, WI 53039

SHEILA HARSDORF

N6627 County Road E
River Falls, WI 54022

PAT KREITLOW

President Pro Tempore

15854 93rd Avenue
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

MARK MILLER

4903 Roigan Terrace
Monona, WI 53716

JUDY ROBSON

2411 E. Ridge Road
Beloit, WI 53511

DALE SCHULTZ

515 North Central Avenue
Richland Center, WI 53581

ROBERT WIRCH

3007 Springbrook Road
Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158

REPRESENTATIVES

JOAN BALLWEG

170 W. Summit Street
Markesan, WI 53946

TERESE BERCEAU

4326 Somerset Lane
Madison, WI 53711

SPENCER BLACK

5742 Elder Place
Madison, WI 53705

JEFF FITZGERALD

Minority Leader

910 Sunset
Horicon, WI 53032

DEAN KAUFERT

1360 Alpine Lane
Neenah, WI 54956

THOMAS NELSON

Majority Leader

1510 Orchard Drive
Kaukauna, WI 54130

MARK POCAN

309 N. Baldwin Street
Madison, WI 53703

MICHAEL SHERIDAN

Speaker

1032 Nantucket Drive
Janesville, WI 53546

TONY STASKUNAS

Speaker Pro Tempore

2010 South 103rd Court
West Allis, WI 53227

ROBIN VOS

4710 Eastwood Ridge
Racine, WI 53406

This 22-member committee consists of the majority and minority party leadership of both houses of the Legislature, the co-chairs and ranking minority members of the Joint Committee on Finance, and 5 Senators and 5 Representatives appointed as are members of standing committees.

Strengthening Wisconsin Families

Senator Lena Taylor, Co-Chair
1518 West Capitol Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53206

Representative Steve Kestell, Co-Chair
W3829 State Highway 32
Elkhart Lake, WI 53020

Senator Dale Schultz
515 North Central Avenue
Richland Center, WI 53581

Representative Tamara Grigsby
2354 North 41st Street
Milwaukee, WI 53210

Sheryl Albers
4274 Vilas Road
Cottage Grove, WI 53527

Jon Angeli
253 South Harrison Street
Lancaster, WI 53813

John Burgess, President/CEO
Family and Children's Center
1707 Main Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Gary Erdmann
Lad Lake, Inc.
W350 S1401 Waterville Road
P.O. Box 158
Dousman, WI 53118

Debra Fields
Sojourner Truth House, Inc.
P.O. Box 05311
Milwaukee, WI 53205

Undraye Howard
UWM School of Continuing Education
Youth Work Learning Center
161 West Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 6000
Milwaukee, WI 53203

Wanda Montgomery, Executive Director
Children's Family and Community Partnership
2327 North 25th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53206

Terence Ray, Director
Milwaukee Fatherhood Initiative
5003 West Lisbon Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53210

Lucille Rosenberg
3431 North Lake Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53211

Mary Jo Tittl
907 Beech Drive
Plymouth, WI 53073

Jack Westman
Wisconsin Cares, Inc.
1234 Dartmouth Road
Madison, WI 53705-2214

STUDY ASSIGNMENT: The committee is directed to develop recommendations to advise the new Department of Children and Families on the administration of programs administered by the new department, to promote the integration of family services formerly administered by multiple departments.

15 MEMBERS: 2 Senators, 2 Representatives, and 11 Public Members.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF: Anne Sappenfield, Senior Staff Attorney, and Jessica Karls-Ruplinger, Staff Attorney; and Julie Learned, Support Staff.

Committee Materials List

(Copies of documents are available at www.legis.state.wi.us/lc)

August 21 Mail Ballot					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results of the August 21, 2009 mail ballot. • WLC: 0346/4, relating to creating a family policy board and requiring counties to provide prevention resources. • WLC: 0416/3, relating to creating expectations for foster children and foster parents and rule-making. • WLC: 0417/4, relating to training for foster parents. • WLC: 0424/2, relating to extended court jurisdiction for certain foster youth under the age of 21 years. 					
August 13, 2009 Meeting		Notice	Agenda	Audio	Minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document, <i>Core Team Key Action Areas Priority Strategies and Key Partners Based on Report out Recommendations from May 4-5, 2009 Summit Based on June 4, 2009 Core Team Meeting</i>, submitted by the Department of Children and Families. • Document, <i>Building Bridges to Family Economic Success Workgroup Recommendations and Group Leaders</i>, submitted by the Department of Children and Families. • Document, <i>Comments on bill drafts scheduled for August 13, 2009 meeting of the Special Committee on Strengthening Wisconsin Families</i>, submitted by Public Member Jack Westman. • Chart, <i>Wisconsin Cares, Inc., Staffing Considerations for a Family Policy Integration Board</i>, submitted by Public Member Jack Westman. • Document, <i>Through a New Lens: Toward a Fundamental Reframing of "the Client", Turning Crisis into Opportunity for Systems Change in Human Services</i>, submitted by Public Member Jon Angeli. 					
July 15, 2009 Meeting		Notice	Agenda	Audio	Minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testimony submitted by Richard Schlimm, Chair, Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board (July 15, 2009). • Foster Parent Handbook, submitted by Kimmie Collins, Legislative Liaison, Department of Children and Families: http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/memos/num_memos/DSP/2008/2008-05handbookredirect.pdf. • Information about the Foster Care and Adoption Resource Center, submitted by Kimmie Collins, Legislative Liaison, Department of Children and Families: http://www.wifostercareandadoption.org/. • WLC: 0416/2, relating to creating bills of rights for foster children and foster parents. • WLC: 0417/2, relating to training for foster parents. • WLC: 0424/1, relating to extended court jurisdiction for certain foster youth under the age of 21 years. • WLC: 0434/1, relating to training for child welfare case workers. • WLC: 0346/3, relating to creating a family policy board and requiring counties to provide prevention resources. 					
April 2, 2009 Meeting		Notice	Agenda	Video	Minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by Julie Brown, Director, Milwaukee Child Welfare Partnership for Professional Development. • Milwaukee County Child Welfare: Program Issues (report 06-1) http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lab/reports/06-1Full.pdf, submitted by Paul Stuiber and Dean Swenson, Legislative Audit Bureau. • Milwaukee County Child Welfare: Finances and Staffing (report 06-2) http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lab/reports/06-2Full.pdf, submitted by Paul Stuiber and Dean Swenson, Legislative Audit Bureau. • State of Wisconsin Single Audit, 2007-08 (report 09-5) Page 55 discusses the overpayment issue referenced. http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lab/reports/09-5full.pdf, submitted by Paul Stuiber and Dean Swenson, Legislative Audit Bureau. • Testimony from Dean Swenson, Program Evaluation Director, Legislative Audit Bureau. • Document, <i>Recommendations from Frontline Providers</i>, submitted by Co-Chair Lena Taylor. • WLC: 0424/P1, relating to extended court jurisdiction for certain foster youth under the age of 21 years. • WLC: 0416/1, relating to creating bills of rights for foster children and foster parents. • WLC: 0417/1, relating to training for foster parents. • Report, <i>Review of Turnover in Milwaukee County Private Agency Child Welfare Ongoing Case Management Staff</i>, prepared by Connie Flower, Jess McDonald, and Michael Sumski (January 2005). 					

Report to the Legislature				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report to the Legislature, <i>Strengthening Wisconsin Families</i> (July 27, 2009). • 2009 Senate Bill 210 (2009 Assembly Bill 296). • 2009 Senate Bill 211 (2009 Assembly Bill 297). • 2009 Senate Bill 212 (2009 Assembly Bill 298). 				
Recommendations to the Joint Legislative Council (March 26, 2009)				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results of the March 26, 2009 Meeting. • Proposed Report to the Legislature 2009-05, <i>Special Committee on Strengthening Wisconsin Families</i> (March 18, 2009). • WLC: 0125/2, relating to children who are involved in multiple systems of care and their families, and making an appropriation. • LRB-1912/2, relating to child abuse and neglect prevention grants. • WLC: 0383/4, relating to requiring notice to relatives when a child is taken into custody and disclosure of information to relatives for the purpose of facilitating a relationship or placement. 				
March 3, 2009 Meeting	Notice	Agenda	Audio	Minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WLC: 0346/3, relating to creating a family policy board and requiring counties to provide prevention resources. • WLC: 0383/2, relating to requiring notice to relatives when a child is taken into custody. • WLC: 0383/3, relating to requiring notice to relatives when a child is taken into custody. • Document, <i>A Plan to Strengthen Wisconsin Families Through a State Family Policy Board</i>, proposed by Wisconsin Cares, Inc., submitted by Public Member Jack Westman. • Document, <i>The Status of the Family in Wisconsin State Government, Fragmentation and Discontinuity</i>, submitted by Public Member Jack Westman. • Letter, from Rick Lockwood, Family Finding Program Coordinator, to Senator Taylor and Representative Kestell, Co-Chairs of the Special Committee on Strengthening Wisconsin Families, regarding recommended amendment to SFAM08 Notification of Relatives (WLC: 0383/1). • Testimony of Susan Conwell, J.D., Executive Director, Kids Matter Inc. • Memorandum, <i>Comments on WLC: 0383/2 and 0346/3</i>, from Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf, Senior Legislative Associate, Wisconsin Counties Association (March 2, 2009). • Memorandum, from Jerry Huber, Human Services Director, Human Services Department, La Crosse County. • Letter from Christine M. Calpin, Acting Associate Commissioner, Children's Bureau, Department of Health and Human Services, to Reginald Bicha, Administrator, Wisconsin Division of Children and Family Services (February 4, 2008). • Document listing responses to issues raised by the Special Committee, submitted by the Department of Children and Families. • Document, <i>Comparison between the Family Policy Board and the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board</i>, submitted by the Department of Children and Families (January 5, 2009). • Testimony of Mary Ann Snyder, Executive Director, Children's Trust Fund. 				
January 26, 2009 Meeting	Notice	Agenda	Audio	Minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WLC: 0346/2, relating to creating a family policy board and requiring counties to provide prevention resources. • WLC: 0383/1, relating to requiring notice to relatives when a child is taken into custody. • Handout, <i>History of the Wisconsin Family Policy Board Proposal</i>, submitted by Public Member Jack Westman. • Memorandum from Sarah Diedrick-Kasdorf, Senior Legislative Associate, Wisconsin Counties Association, <i>Comments on WLC: 0383/1 and 0346/2</i> (January 22, 2009). • Handout, <i>Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board's Position on the Family Policy Board Proposal</i>, submitted by the Wisconsin Children's Trust Fund (January 21, 2009). • Handout, <i>2009 Building Bridges to Economic Success Fact Sheet</i>, submitted by Jane Penner-Hoppe, Department of Children and Families. • Press Release, <i>Governor Doyle Announces Creation of Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care</i>, submitted by Jane Penner-Hoppe, Department of Children and Families. • Family to Family, Tools for Rebuilding Foster Care, submitted by Public Member Jon Angeli. 				
December 4, 2008 Meeting	Notice	Agenda	Audio a.m. Audio p.m.	Minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memo No. 5, <i>Coordinated Services Teams Initiative and the Coordinating Committee Under WLC: 0125/2</i> (November 25, 2008). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Enclosure, <i>Structure of a CST Initiative</i>. 				

- [Memo No. 6](#), *Other States' Laws Relating to Relative Finding and Kinship Navigator Programs* (November 26, 2008).
- [WLC: 0303/1](#), relating to Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Grants.
- [Handout](#), *12 Critical Elements of Successful Home Visiting Programs*, submitted by Pence Revington, UW-Extension, Family Living Specialist (October 1, 2007).

November 14, 2008 Meeting	Notice	Agenda	Audio	Minutes
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- [WLC: 0125/2](#), relating to children who are involved in multiple systems of care and their families, and making an appropriation.
- [Memo No. 4](#), *WLC: 0125/2, Relating to Children Who Are Involved in Multiple Systems of Care and Their Families* (November 7, 2008).
- [Document](#), *Evidence-Based Programs to Prevent children from Entering and Remaining in the Child Welfare System: Benefits and Costs for Washington*, submitted by Public Member Mary Jo Tittl (July 2008).
- [Article](#), *American Humane Association Wins Grant for National Quality Improvement Center on Differential Response in Child Protective Services*, submitted by Public Member Jon Angeli.
- Materials related to home visitation cost benefits:
 - [Letter](#) from Stephanie Lee, Washington State Institute for Public Policy (August 5, 2008).
 - American Journal of Evaluation [article](#), *Don't Throw Out the Baby With the Bath Water, A Novel Way of Evaluating Outcomes in the Healthy Families America Programs*, by Stacey R. Kessler, Montclair State University, and Ashley Nixon and Carnot Nelson, University of Southern Florida (September 2008).
 - [Report](#), *Home Visitation in 2005: Outcomes for Children and Parents*, by Deanna S. Gomby, PhD., M.S. (July 18, 2005).
 - [Chart](#), *Cost/Benefit Resources for Prevention and Home*, by Lynn A. Karoly (2001).
 - [Memo](#), from Kathryn Harding, Lisa Schreiber, Ben Tanzer, & Jim Hmurovich, Prevent Child Abuse America, *New WSIPP Cost Study on Child Welfare Programs* (August 15, 2008).
 - [Document](#), *Investment in Parents as Teachers: Results for Children, Families and Communities*.
 - [Letter](#) to Stephanie Lee, Steve Aos, Marna Miller, Washington State Institute for Public Policy (June 30, 2008).
 - [Report](#), *The Washington State Institute for Public Policy Cost Benefit Study and the Cost Benefit of Healthy Families Florida*, submitted by Terry J. Rhodes, D. Min., Director of Research, Evaluation and Systems, Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida.
 - [Report](#), *Benefits and Costs of Prevention and Early Intervention Programs for Youth*, Washington State Institute for Public Policy (July 2004; updated September 17, 2004).
 - [Document](#), *Evidence-Based Programs to Prevent Children From Entering and Remaining in the Child Welfare System: Benefits and Costs for Washington*, Washington State Institute for Public Policy (July 2008).
- [Presentation](#) from Audrey Laszewski, Project Director for the Early Years Home Visitation Outcomes Project of WI, *Key Talking Points* (November 14, 2008).
- [PowerPoint presentation](#) from Jack Tweedie, National Conference of State Legislatures, *Home Visiting Programs as Investments: Benefits, Costs and Returns*.

October 16, 2008 Meeting	Notice	Agenda	Audio	Minutes
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- [Memo No. 3](#), *Current Law Related to Home Visitation Program Grants* (October 9, 2008).
- [WLC: 0125/1](#), relating to children with severe disabilities or who are involved in multiple systems of care, or both, and their families, and making an appropriation.
- [Letter](#) to Governor Jim Doyle, regarding the inclusion of 2007 Assembly Bill 700 in the Executive Budget Bill (October 1, 2008).
- [Listening Sessions](#), submitted by Jane Penner-Hoppe, Department of Children and Families.
- [National Home Visiting Programs' Shared Vision Statement](#), submitted by Public Member Mary Jo Tittl.
- PowerPoint presentation, [The SEED School of Wisconsin](#), by Michael D'Amato, Wisconsin Director, The SEED School Initiative.
- [Selected Media Stories](#), The SEED School of Wisconsin, by Michael D'Amato, Wisconsin Director, The SEED School Initiative.
- [Handout](#), dated October 15, 2008, by Michael D'Amato, Wisconsin Director, The SEED School Initiative.
- Document, [Wisconsin Coalition for a Public Boarding School](#), submitted by Michael D'Amato, Wisconsin Director, The SEED School Initiative.
- Document, [Poverty Matters. Facing Poverty in Wisconsin](#), submitted by Dick Schlimm, Wisconsin Community Action Program.
- [Handout](#), submitted by Public Member Jack Westman.
- Materials submitted by the Milwaukee Center for Independence (MCFI):
 - [Report](#) on Children with Disabilities, *Addressing a Growing Epidemic*.
 - [Resolution](#), supporting the MCFI's charge, mission and report.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Milwaukee Journal Sentinel article, <i>Young and in Need</i> (March 27, 2008). ○ Handout, JSONline article, <i>Editorial: Enabling the right help</i>. ○ Report, <i>Children with Disabilities: A hidden health care crisis</i>, Findings of the Children's Task Force of the Milwaukee Center for Independence. ○ 2007 Senate Joint Resolution 105, relating to expressing support for the Milwaukee Center for Independence. 				
September 26, 2008 Meeting	Notice	Agenda	Audio	Minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Memo No. 2, <i>2007 Assembly Bill 700, Relating to Children with Severe Disabilities or Who Are Involved in Multiple Systems of Care, or Both, and Their Families</i> (September 18, 2008). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Enclosure to Memo No. 2, 2007 Assembly Bill 700, relating to children with severe disabilities or who are involved in multiple systems of care, or both, and their families. ● Presentation handout by Gerald Huber, Human Services Director, La Crosse County, <i>Building Our Village for Families</i> (September 26, 2008). ● Presentation handout by Dan Naylor, CST Specialist, White Pine Consulting Services, Inc. 				
August 25, 2008 Meeting	Notice	Agenda	Audio	Minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Document, <i>Beyond Ideology, Politics, and Guesswork: The Case for Evidence-Based Policy, Revised 2008</i>, submitted by Public Member Jon Angeli. ● Document, <i>Wisconsin Supporting Families</i>, submitted by Public Member Jon Angeli. 				
August 12, 2008 Meeting	Notice	Agenda	Audio 1 Audio 2	Minutes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Memo No. 1, <i>Overview of the Special Committee on Strengthening Wisconsin Families and the Department of Children and Families</i> (August 5, 2008). ● Handout, <i>Evidence-Based Programs to Prevent Children from Entering and Remaining in the Child Welfare System: Benefits and Costs of Washington</i>, Washington State Institute for Public Policy, submitted by Public Member Jack Westman (July 2008). ● Power Point Presentation, distributed by Public Member Mary Jo Tittl (August 7, 2008). ● Document, <i>The One Hundred Billion Dollar Man, The Annual Public Costs of Father Absence</i>, submitted by Public Member Terence Ray. ● Article, <i>State Uniting Social Services at Single Sites</i>, submitted by Public Member Jon Angeli. ● Policy Brief No. 24, <i>Family Strengthening Writ Large: On Becoming a Nation that Promotes Strong Families and Successful Youth</i>, submitted by Public Member Jon Angeli (December 2007). ● 2007 Foundation for Child Development Report, <i>The Foundation for Child Development Child and Youth Well-Being Index (CWI), 1975-2005, with Projections for 2006</i>, submitted by Public Member Mary Jo Tittl. 				