



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

**Special Committee on Permanency for Young Children
in the Child Welfare System**

Chair Samantha Kerkman, Representative
P.O. Box 156
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Jill Billings, Representative
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Vice-Chair Mary Lazich, Senator
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Laura Maki, Foster Parent
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Jessica Murphy, Foster Parent (resigned 10/24/12)
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STUDY ASSIGNMENT: The Special Committee is directed to study current law relating to permanency for children under the age of eight who are placed or at risk of being placed outside of their home, such as in foster care, to determine whether modifications could be made to reduce the length of time it takes to achieve permanency and to improve outcomes for these children. The committee shall also determine how current law may be modified to encourage the placement of younger children with a relative as an option for permanency or support.

16 MEMBERS: 2 Representatives; 1 Senator; and 13 Public Members.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF: Melissa Schmidt and Margit Kelley, Staff Attorneys; and Kelly Mautz, Support Staff.