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State of Misconsin 2021 - 2022 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4563/P2 EHS:emw

PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

AN ACT to amend 48.21 (1) (c) 2. and 938.21 (1) (c) 2. of the statutes; relating to: information included in a standardized assessment for a child in custody in certain facilities (suggested as remedial legislation by the Department of Children and Families).

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law in the Children's Code and Juvenile Justice Code, if a child is held in temporary custody in a residential care center for children and youth, a group home, or a shelter care facility, a trained professional or licensed clinician must conduct a standardized assessment of the child. The assessment must describe how the placement is consistent with the short-term and long-term goals for the child "as specified in the permanency plan" in current statutes. The standardized assessment must be submitted to the court, which must make a finding as to the items in the standardized assessment, including whether the placement is consistent with the short-term and long-term goals for the child "as identified in the permanency planning" in current statutes.

This bill conforms the language describing the information that must be in the standardized assessment regarding the placement's consistency with permanency planning goals with the language describing the finding that the court must make, to clarify that the permanency plan does not need to be complete at the time when the standardized assessment is done.

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For further information, see the Notes provided by the Law Revision Committee of the Joint Legislative Council.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

Law Revision Committee prefatory note: This bill is a remedial legislation proposal, requested by the Department of Children and Families and introduced by the Law Revision Committee under s. 13.83 (1) (c) 4. and 5., stats. After careful consideration of the various provisions of the bill, the Law Revision Committee has determined that this bill makes minor substantive changes in the statutes, and that these changes are desirable as a matter of public policy.

- SECTION 1. 48.21 (1) (c) 2. of the statutes, as created by 2021 Wisconsin Act 42, is amended to read:

 48.21 (1) (c) 2. How the placement is consistent with the short-term and
 - 48.21 (1) (c) 2. How the placement is consistent with the short-term and long-term goals for the child, as specified identified in the permanency plan planning.
 - **SECTION 2.** 938.21 (1) (c) 2. of the statutes, as created by 2021 Wisconsin Act 42, is amended to read:
 - 938.21 (1) (c) 2. How the placement is consistent with the short-term and long-term goals for the juvenile, as specified identified in the permanency plan planning.

****Note: Sections 1 and 2 replace the words "specified" with "identified" and "permanency plan" with "permanency planning" to reflect DCF policy that a child's permanency plan need not be completed before the child may be assessed.

11 (END)