

## CHAPTER 146

## MISCELLANEOUS HEALTH PROVISIONS

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**146.001 Definitions.** In this chapter unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Department" means the department of health and social services.

History: 1973 c. 223

**146.01 Infant blindness.** (1) For the prevention of ophthalmia neonatorum or infant blindness the attending physician or midwife shall use a prophylactic agent approved by the department.

(2) In a confinement not attended by a physician or midwife, if one or both eyes of an infant becomes inflamed, swollen and red or show an unnatural discharge at any time within 2 weeks after birth, the nurse, parents, or other person in charge shall report the facts in writing within 6 hours to the local health officer who shall immediately warn the person of the danger. The local health officer shall employ at the expense of the municipality a competent physician to examine and treat the case.

(3) Any person who violates this section shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars.

History: 1979 c. 221.

**146.015 Safety eye protective goggles.**

(1) Every student and teacher in schools, colleges, universities and other educational institutions participating in or observing any of the following courses is required to wear appropriate industrial quality eye protective goggles at all times while participating in or observing such courses or laboratories:

(a) Vocational, technical or industrial arts

shops, chemical or chemical-physical laboratories involving exposure to:

1. Hot molten metals or other molten materials.

2. Milling, sawing, turning, shaping, cutting, grinding or stamping of any solid materials.

3. Heat treatment, tempering or kiln firing of any metal or other materials.

4. Gas or electric arc welding or other forms of welding processes.

5. Repair or servicing of any vehicle.

6. Caustic or explosive materials.

(b) Chemical, physical or combined chemical-physical laboratories involving caustic or explosive materials, hot liquids or solids, injurious radiations or other hazards not enumerated.

(2) Eye protective goggles may be furnished for all students and teachers by the institution, purchased and sold at cost to students and teachers or made available for a moderate rental fee and shall be furnished for all visitors.

(3) In this section, "industrial quality eye protective goggles" means devices meeting the standards of the American National Standard Practice for Occupational and Educational Eye and Face Protection, Z87.1 - 1968, and subsequent revisions thereof, approved by the American National Standards Institute, Inc.

(4) The state superintendent of public instruction shall prepare and circulate to each public and private educational institution in this

state instructions and recommendations for implementing the eye safety provisions of this section.

History: 1973 c. 66

#### 146.02 Tests for metabolic disorders. (1)

**BLOOD TESTS.** The attending physician shall cause every infant born in each hospital or maternity home, prior to its discharge therefrom, to be subjected to a test for phenylketonuria, galactosemia, maple syrup urine disease, neonatal hypothyroidism and such causes of metabolic disorders under sub. (2) as the department directs.

**(1m) URINE TESTS.** The department may establish a urine test program to test infants for causes of metabolic disorders. The department may establish the methods of obtaining urine specimens and testing such specimens, and may develop and provide materials for use in the tests. No person may be required to participate in programs developed under this subsection.

**(2) PERFORMANCE OF TESTS.** The tests to be performed shall be determined by the department and shall be performed in such laboratories as the department approves for this purpose, in accordance with rules prescribed by the department. The department, in making any specifications as to laboratories in which tests required under subs. (1) and (1m) will be performed, shall take into consideration before specifying such laboratories the test costs to the financially responsible private parties and to the state under each of the following options:

- (a) Specifying a single testing laboratory;
- (b) Specifying several laboratories on a geographic or other basis; or
- (c) Specifying all laboratories, public and private, to process the required tests.

**(3) EXCEPTIONS.** This section shall not apply if the parents or legal guardian of the child object thereto on the grounds that the test conflicts with their religious tenets and practices. No tests may be performed under sub. (1) or (1m) unless the parents or legal guardian are fully informed of the purposes of testing under this section and have been given reasonable opportunity to object as authorized in this subsection or in sub. (1m) to such tests.

**(4) CONFIDENTIALITY OF TESTS AND RELATED INFORMATION.** The laboratory shall provide the test results to the physician, who shall advise the parents or legal guardian of the results. No information obtained under this section from the parents or guardian or from specimens from the infant may be disclosed except for such information as the parent or guardian consents to be released, and except for

use in statistical data compiled by the department without reference to the identity of any individual.

History: 1977 c. 160.

A physician and parent may enter an agreement to perform a PKU test after the infant has left the hospital without violating (1) 61 Atty. Gen. 66

#### 146.025 Council on infant health screening.

The council on infant health screening shall study the feasibility of testing of newborn infants for the purpose of discovering metabolic disorders. The council shall advise the department on the development and implementation of screening plans. The council shall report its findings on a yearly basis to the legislature and to the medical examining board.

History: 1977 c. 160, 246, 447.

NOTE: Chapter 160, laws of 1977, repeals the council on health screening effective November 1, 1981. See note following 15.197 (3p).

#### 146.026 Sudden infant death syndrome.

**(1)** The department shall prepare and distribute printed informational materials relating to sudden infant death syndrome. The materials shall be directed toward the concerns of parents of victims of sudden infant death syndrome and shall be distributed to maximize availability to the parents.

**(2)** The department shall make available upon request follow-up counseling by trained health care professionals for parents and families of victims of sudden infant death syndrome.

History: 1977 c. 246, 447

#### 146.03 Home manufacturing. (1)

Under this section "manufacturer" shall mean the owner or lessee of any factory or contractor for such owner or lessee, "manufactured" shall mean manufactured, altered, repaired or finished, and "home" shall mean any tenement or dwelling, or a shed or other building in the rear thereof.

**(2)** No articles shall be manufactured for a manufacturer in a home unless he shall have secured a license from the local health officer, which shall designate the room, apartment or building and name the persons to be employed. License shall be granted only upon payment of a fee of \$3, and when the health officer shall have satisfied himself through inspection that the place is clean and fit for the purpose and that none of the persons employed or living therein are afflicted with any communicable disease likely to be transmitted to consumers. The license shall be issued for one year. At least one reinspection shall be made during the year, and the license revoked if reinspection discloses improper conditions. The license shall be kept on file in the principal office of the licensee.

(3) The department may adopt and enforce rules for local health officers hereunder, and may prohibit home work upon specified articles when necessary to protect health of consumers of workers. Section 140.05 (3), (4) and (5) shall apply.

(4) Every manufacturer giving out articles or materials to be manufactured, in any home shall issue therewith a label bearing the name or place of business of the factory, written or printed legibly in English, and shall keep a register of the names and addresses of the persons to whom given, and with whom contracts to do so were made, the quantities given out and completed and the wages paid. This register may be inspected by the department or the local health officer.

(5) Anyone who shall for himself or as manager or agent give out materials to be manufactured, in a home, for an unlicensed manufacturer or who shall employ, or contract with anyone to do such work without such license shall forfeit to the state not less than \$10 nor more than \$100 for each offense.

History: 1971 c. 164 s. 85; 1973 c. 135; 1979 c. 34.

#### 146.04 Mattresses and upholstery. (1)

Whoever manufactures for sale, offers for sale, sells, delivers, or has in his possession with intent to sell or deliver any mattress which is not properly branded, or labeled; or whoever uses, in whole or in part in the manufacture of mattresses, any material which has been used, or has formed a part of any mattress, pillow or bedding used in or about public or private hospitals or on or about any person having a communicable disease; or dealing in mattresses, has a mattress in his possession for the purpose of sale, or offers it for sale, without a brand or label as herein provided, or removes, conceals or defaces the brand or label, shall be fined not less than twenty-five nor more than five hundred dollars, or imprisoned not to exceed six months, or both. The brand or label herein required shall contain, in plain print in the English language, a statement of the material used, whether they are, in whole or in part, new or secondhand, and the qualities. Such brand or label shall be a paper or cloth tag securely attached. A mattress within this section is a quilted, stuffed pad, to be used on a bed for sleeping or reclining purposes.

(2) Any person upholstering or reupholstering any article, or who manufactures for sale, offers for sale, sells or delivers, or who has in his possession with intent to sell or deliver anything containing upholstery, without a brand or label as herein provided or who removes, conceals or defaces the brand or label, shall be punished as provided in sub. (1). The brand or label shall contain, in plain print in English, a

statement of the kind of materials used in the filling and in the covering, according to the grades of filling and covering used by the trade, whether they are in whole or in part new or secondhand, and the qualities, and whether, if secondhand, they have been thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. Such brand or label shall be a paper or cloth tag securely attached.

(3) If the department of industry, labor and human relations believes this section is being or has been violated, it shall advise the attorney general, giving the grounds of its belief; and the department of justice or, under the direction of the department of justice, the district attorney shall institute proceedings for enforcement and punishment.

**146.05 Public places.** The owner and occupant and everyone in charge of a public building, as defined by s. 101.01 (2) (a) to (i), shall keep the same clean and sanitary.

History: 1971 c. 185 s. 7.

#### 146.06 Calcimining and paper hanging.

Before repapering or recalcimining any part of a wall or ceiling in any hotel or other public place anyone engaged in the business, shall remove all old paper or calcimine and thoroughly cleanse the surface. Violation shall be fined not less than five nor more than twenty-five dollars for each offense.

**146.07 Drinking cups. (1)** If the owner or manager shall furnish, or permit the use of a common drinking cup in a railroad train or station, state or other public building, street, public park, educational institution, hotel or lodging house, theater, department store, barber shop, or other places where it is inimical to health, and the department so finds and orders, he shall be fined not less than ten nor more than fifty dollars.

(2) No railroad car in which any passenger is permitted to ride for more than ten miles of continuous passage in one general direction shall be operated unless there is provided for every passenger therein, at all times during such operation, opportunity to obtain free of charge a paper drinking cup not theretofore used by any person. Such drinking cups shall be kept in a clean, conspicuous and convenient place at or near the drinking fountain in each such car. Any owner or manager or person in charge who shall fail to comply herewith shall forfeit not less than twenty-five nor more than one hundred dollars for every day or part of day of such failure, to be recovered in an action to be brought by the attorney general in the name of the state of Wisconsin. The provisions of this

section shall be enforced by the department of transportation.

**History:** 1977 c. 29 s. 1654 (9) (a).

**146.085 Pay toilets prohibited. (1) PROHIBITION.** The owner or manager of any public building shall not permit an admission fee to be charged for the use of any toilet compartment.

**(2) PENALTY.** Any person who violates this section shall be fined not less than \$10 nor more than \$50.

**(3) ENFORCEMENT.** The department, the department of industry, labor and human relations and the public service commission shall enforce this section within their respective jurisdictions.

**History:** 1971 c. 228 s. 44; 1973 c. 12 s. 37; 1975 c. 298

**146.09 Sweeping.** If the owner or manager shall sweep, or permit the sweeping, except when vacuum cleaners or properly filled reservoir dustless brushes are used, of floors in a railroad station, passenger car, state or public building, educational institution, hotel, or department store, without the floor being first sprinkled with water, moist sawdust, or other substance so as to prevent the raising of dust, he shall be fined not less than ten nor more than fifty dollars.

**146.10 Smoke.** The council of any city or the board of any village may regulate or prohibit the emission of dense smoke into the open air within its limits and one mile therefrom.

The social and economic roots of judge-made air pollution policy in Wisconsin. Laitos, 58 MLR 465.

**146.125 Powers of villages, cities and towns.** Section 95.72 shall not be construed as depriving any city or village from passing any ordinance prohibiting the rendering of dead animals within the boundaries specified in s. 66.052 nor as nullifying any existing law or ordinance prohibiting the rendering of dead animals within such area, nor prohibiting any city or village from licensing, revoking such license, and regulating the business of rendering and transporting dead animals under sanitary conditions no less stringent than provided by said section and the rules of the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection and any such licensing and regulation shall be construed as supplementary to the provisions of this section and the rules of the department shall not be construed as excusing or justifying any failure or neglect to comply with this section and the rules of the department. Section 95.72 shall be expressly construed as modifying the powers granted to towns and any city, village or town is empowered to take any action to be taken under s. 146.14 and to institute and maintain court

proceedings to prevent, abate or remove any nuisances thereunder and to institute and maintain any action under ss. 823.01, 823.02 and 823.07.

**History:** 1973 c. 206; Sup. Ct. Order, 67 W (2d) 774; 1977 c. 29 s. 1650m (4).

**146.13 Discharging noxious matter into highway and surface waters. (1)** If anyone constructs or permits any drain, pipe, sewer or other outlet to discharge into a public highway infectious or noxious matter, the board of health of the village, town or city shall, and the town sanitary district commission or the county board of health, acting alone or jointly with the local board of health may, order the person maintaining it to remove it within 10 days and if such condition continues or recurs after the expiration of 10 days the board or boards issuing the order may enter upon the property and cause removal of the nuisance. The cost thereof may be recovered from the person permitting such violation, or such cost may be paid by the municipal treasurer and such account, after being paid by the treasurer, shall be filed with the municipal clerk, who shall enter the amount chargeable to the property in the next tax roll in a column headed, "For Abatement of a Nuisance," as a tax on the lands upon which such nuisance was abated, which tax shall be collected as other taxes are. In case of railroad or other lands not taxed in the usual way the amount chargeable against the same shall be certified by the clerk to the state treasurer who shall add the amount designated therein to the sum due from the company owning, occupying or controlling the land specified, and he shall collect the same as prescribed in subch. I of ch. 76 and return the amount collected to the town, city or village from which such certificate was received. Anyone maintaining such a nuisance shall also be fined not exceeding \$300 or imprisoned not exceeding 90 days, or both.

**(2)** No person shall discharge by any means whatsoever untreated domestic sewage into any surface water as defined by s. 144.01 (5), or drainage ditch governed by ch. 88; nor shall any person discharge effluents or pumpage by any means whatsoever from any septic tank, dry well or cesspool into any surface water as defined by s. 144.01 (5), or drainage ditch governed by ch. 88. Whoever violates this subsection shall be fined not to exceed \$50 for the first offense and not less than \$50 nor more than \$200 or imprisoned 30 days, or both, for each subsequent offense.

**History:** 1979 c. 34 s. 2102 (39) (g); 1979 c. 102 s. 237.

**146.14 Nuisances. (1)** A "nuisance," under this section, is any source of filth or cause of

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sickness. The department may order the abatement or removal of a nuisance on private premises, and if the owner or occupant fails to comply, the department, or its agent, may enter upon the premises and abate or remove such nuisance.

(2) If a nuisance, caused by improper sewerage disposal facilities, is found on private property the local health officer or the chairman of the local board of health shall notify the owner and the occupant of such property by registered mail with return receipt requested of the presence of such nuisance and order its abatement or removal within 30 days of receipt of notice. The officer shall also notify the local governing body of the nuisance. If the nuisance is not corrected by that date, the local governing body shall immediately enter upon the property and abate or remove the nuisance or may contract to have the work performed. The nuisance shall be abated in a manner which is approved by the department. The cost thereof may be recovered from the person permitting such violation or may be paid by the municipal treasurer and such account, after being paid by the treasurer, shall be filed with the municipal clerk, who shall enter the amount chargeable to the property in the next tax roll in a column headed "For Abatement of a Nuisance" as a special tax on the lands upon which such nuisance was abated, which tax shall be collected as are other taxes. In case of railroads or other lands not taxed in the usual way the amount chargeable against the same shall be certified by the clerk to the state treasurer who shall add the amount designated therein to the sum due from the company owning, occupying or controlling the land specified, and the treasurer shall collect the same as prescribed in subch. I of ch. 76 and return the amount collected to the town, city or village from which such certificate was received. Anyone maintaining such a nuisance may also be fined not more than \$300 or imprisoned not more than 90 days or both. The only defenses an owner shall have against the collection of a tax under this subsection are that no nuisance existed on the owner's property, that no nuisance was corrected on the owner's property, that the procedure outlined in this subsection was not followed or any applicable defense under s. 74.135. If a nuisance resulted from any other cause or source, the local board of health or town sanitary district commission shall order its abatement within 24 hours, and if the owner or occupant fails to comply, he or she shall forfeit not less than \$25 nor more than \$100, and the board or commission may abate or remove the nuisance.

(3) If the local board of health or commission is refused entry to any building or vessel to

examine into and abate, remove or prevent a nuisance, any member may complain under oath to a judge of a court of record, stating the facts in the member's knowledge. Upon a finding of probable cause the judge shall issue a warrant commanding the sheriff or any constable of the county to take sufficient aid, and being accompanied by 2 or more members of the board of health or commission, and under their direction, between sunrise and sunset, abate, remove or prevent the nuisance.

(4) In cities under general charter the health commissioner or a person under the commissioner may enter into and examine any place at any time to ascertain health conditions, and anyone refusing to allow such entrance at reasonable hours shall be fined not less than \$10 nor more than \$100; and if the commissioner deems it necessary to abate or remove a nuisance found on private property, the commissioner shall serve notice on the owner or occupant to abate or remove within a reasonable time, not less than 24 hours; and if he or she fails to comply, or if the nuisance is on property whose owner is a nonresident, or cannot be found, the commissioner shall cause abatement or removal.

(5) The cost of abatement or removal of a nuisance under this section may be at the expense of the municipality and may be collected from the owner or occupant, or person causing, permitting or maintaining the nuisance, or may be charged against the premises and, upon certification of the health official, assessed as are other special taxes. In cases of railroads or other lands not taxed in the usual way the amount chargeable against the same shall be certified by the clerk to the state treasurer who shall add the amount designated therein to the sum due from the company owning, occupying or controlling the land specified, and the treasurer shall collect the same as prescribed in subch. I of ch. 76 and return the amount collected to the town, city or village from which such certificate was received. Anyone maintaining such a nuisance may also be fined not more than \$300 or imprisoned not more than 90 days or both. The only defenses an owner shall have against the collection of a tax under this subsection are that no nuisance existed on the owner's property, or that no nuisance was corrected on the owner's property, or that the procedure outlined in this subsection was not followed, or any applicable defense under s. 74.135.

(6) Cities of the first class may but shall not be required to follow the provisions of this section. Cities of the first class may follow the provisions of its charter.

History: 1979 c. 102 s. 237, 176.

**146.15 Information.** State officials, physicians of mining, manufacturing and other companies or associations, officers and agents of a company incorporated by or transacting business under the laws of this state, shall when requested furnish, so far as practicable, the department any information required touching the public health; and for refusal shall forfeit \$10.

**146.16 Expenses.** Expenses incurred under chs. 142 to 146 not made otherwise chargeable, shall be paid by the town, city or village.

**146.17 Limitations.** Nothing in the statutes shall be construed to authorize interference with the individual's right to select his own physician or mode of treatment, nor as a limitation upon the municipality to enact measures in aid of health administration, consistent with statute and acts of the department.

**146.18 Maternal and child health. (1)** The department shall prepare and submit to the proper federal authorities a state plan for maternal and child health services. Such plan shall conform with all requirements governing federal aid for this purpose and shall be designed to secure for this state the maximum amount of federal aid which can be secured on the basis of the available state, county, and local appropriations. It shall make such reports, in such form and containing such information, as may from time to time be required by the federal authorities, and comply with all provisions which may be prescribed to assure the correctness and verification of such reports.

**(2)** No official, agent or representative of the department, by virtue of this section, shall have any right to enter any home over the objection of the owner thereof, or to take charge of any child over the objection of the parents, or either of them, or of the person standing in the place of a parent or having custody of such child. Nothing in this section shall be construed as limiting the power of a parent or guardian or person standing in the place of a parent to determine what treatment or correction shall be provided for a child or the agency or agencies to be employed for such purpose.

**(3)** The department shall use sufficient funds from the appropriation now made by s. 20.435 (1) (a) for the promotion of the welfare and hygiene of maternity and infancy to match the funds received by the state from the United States under the provisions of such act of congress.

History: 1979 c. 110 s. 60 (1).

**146.20 Servicing septic tanks, seepage pits, grease traps and privies. (1)** POWERS OF DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES. The department of natural resources shall adopt rules relating to the business of servicing septic tanks, seepage pits, grease traps or privies and establish necessary safeguards to protect the public health against the hazards of insanitary and unhealthful practices and conditions. It shall have general supervision and control of methods of servicing septic tanks, seepage pits, grease traps and privies to prevent a nuisance or menace to public health.

**(2) DEFINITIONS.** For the purpose of this section:

(a) "Department" means the department of natural resources.

(b) "Septic tank" means and includes a septic toilet, chemical closet and any other watertight enclosure used for storage and decomposition of human excrement, domestic or industrial wastes.

(c) "Seepage pit" means and includes a dry well, leaching pit or any other cavity in the ground which receives the liquid discharge of a septic tank.

(d) "Grease trap" means a watertight tank for the collection of grease present in sewage and other wastes, and from which grease may be skimmed from the surface of liquid waste for disposal.

(e) "Privy" means a cavity in the ground constructed for toilet uses which receives human excrement either to be partially absorbed directly by the surrounding soil or storage for decomposition and periodic removal.

(f) "Servicing" means cleaning, removing and disposal of scum, liquid, sludge or other wastes from a septic tank, seepage pit, grease trap or privy.

**(3) LICENSING.** (a) *License, application, fee.* Every person before engaging in the business of servicing septic tanks, seepage pits, grease traps or privies in this state shall make application on forms prepared by the department for licensing of each vehicle used by him in such business. The annual license fee is \$25 for each vehicle for a state resident licensee and \$50 for a nonresident licensee. If the department, after investigation, is satisfied that the applicant has the qualifications, experience, and equipment to perform the services in a manner not detrimental to public health it shall issue the license, provided a surety bond has been executed. The license fee shall accompany all applications.

(b) *Expiration date of license.* All licenses so issued shall expire on June 30 and shall not be transferable. Application for renewal shall be

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filed on or before July 1, and if filed after that date a penalty of \$5 shall be charged.

(c) *Wisconsin sanitary licensee*. Any person licensed under this section is required to paint on the side of any vehicle, which he uses in such business, the words "Wisconsin Sanitary Licensee" and immediately under these words "License No. ...." with the number of his license in the space so provided with letters and numbers at least 2 inches high; and all lettering and numbering shall be in distinct color contrast to its background.

(d) *Licensing exceptions*. No license is required of any person for servicing a septic tank, seepage pit, grease trap or privy on real estate owned or leased by him or of a licensed plumber but such servicing shall be in conformity with the law and the rules of the department.

(4) **SURETY BOND**. Before receiving a license the applicant shall execute and deposit with the department a surety bond covering the period for which the license is issued, by a surety company authorized to transact business within the state, to indemnify persons for whom faulty work is performed. Such bond shall be in the amount of \$1,000 for residents of the state and \$5,000 for nonresidents; provided that the aggregate liability of the surety to all such persons shall, in no event, exceed the amount of the bond. Such bond shall be conditioned on the performance of services in conformity with all applicable health laws and rules.

(5) **AUTHORITY TO SUSPEND OR REVOKE LICENSES**. The department may and upon written complaint shall make investigations and conduct hearings and may suspend or revoke any license if the department finds that the licensee has:

(a) Failed to execute, deposit and maintain a surety bond.

(b) Made a material misstatement in the application for license or any application for a renewal thereof.

(c) Demonstrated incompetency to conduct the business.

(d) Violated any provisions of this section or any rule prescribed by the department or falsified information on inspection forms under s. 144.24 (10) (c).

(6) **PENALTIES**. Any person who engages in the business of servicing septic tanks, seepage pits, grease traps or privies without first securing a license or renewal thereof, or who otherwise violates any provision of this section, shall be fined not more than \$100 or imprisoned not more than 30 days, or both. Each day such violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.

History: 1979 c. 34.

**146.22 Flushing devices for urinals**. The department shall not promulgate any rules which either directly or indirectly prohibit the use of manual flushing devices for urinals. The department shall take steps to encourage the use of manual flushing devices for urinals.

History: 1977 c. 418.

**146.24 Certification of milk sheds**. The department shall conduct sampling surveys of milk sheds in Wisconsin to the extent necessary to certify to the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection, the U.S. public health service, and local health departments, the compliance rating of such milk sheds based upon the standards for grade A milk and grade A milk products of the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection and the provisions of the recommended milk ordinance and code of the U.S. public health service.

History: 1977 c. 29 s. 1650m (4)

**146.301 Refusal or delay of emergency service**. (1) In this section "hospital providing emergency services" means a hospital which the department has identified as providing some category of emergency service.

(2) No hospital providing emergency services may refuse emergency treatment to any sick or injured person.

(3) No hospital providing emergency services may delay emergency treatment to a sick or injured person until credit checks, financial information forms or promissory notes have been initiated, completed or signed if, in the opinion of one of the following, who is an employe, agent or staff member of the hospital, the delay is likely to cause increased medical complications, permanent disability or death:

(a) A physician, registered nurse or emergency medical technician-advanced (paramedic).

(b) A trained practical nurse under the specific direction of a physician or registered nurse.

(c) A physician's assistant or any other person under the specific direction of a physician.

(3m) Hospitals shall establish written procedures to be followed by emergency services personnel in carrying out sub. (3).

(4) No hospital may be expected to provide emergency services beyond its capabilities as identified by the department.

(5) Each hospital providing emergency services shall create a plan for referrals of emergency patients when the hospital cannot provide treatment for such patients.

(6) The department shall identify the emergency services capabilities of all hospitals in this state and shall prepare a list of such services. The list shall be updated annually.

(7) A hospital which violates this section may be fined not more than \$1,000 for each offense.

History: 1977 c. 361.

#### 146.31 Blood or tissue transfer services.

(1) It is unlawful to operate a blood bank for commercial profit.

(2) The procurement, processing, distribution or use of whole blood, plasma, blood products, blood derivatives and other human tissues such as corneas, bones or organs for the purpose of injecting, transfusing or transplanting any of them into the human body is declared to be, for all purposes, the rendition of a service by every person participating therein and, whether or not any remuneration is paid therefor, is declared not to be a sale of such whole blood, plasma, blood products, blood derivatives or other tissues, for any purpose. No person involved in the procurement, processing, distribution or use of whole blood, plasma, blood products or blood derivatives for the purpose of injecting or transfusing any of them into the human body shall be liable for damages resulting from these activities except for his own negligence or wilful misconduct.

(3) No hospital, nonprofit tissue bank, physician, nurse or other medical personnel acting under the supervision and direction of a physician involved in the procurement, processing, distribution or use of human tissues such as corneas, bones or organs for the purpose of transplanting any of them into the human body shall be liable for damages resulting from those activities except for negligence or wilful misconduct by that hospital, nonprofit tissue bank, physician, nurse or other medical personnel.

History: 1975 c. 75, 76.

Sub. (1) is an unconstitutional violation of the commerce clause, art. I, sec. 8, and the supremacy clause, art. VI, of the U.S. Constitution. *State v. Interstate Blood Bank, Inc.* 65 W (2d) 482, 222 NW (2d) 912.

**146.33 Blood donors.** Any adult may donate blood in any voluntary and noncompensatory blood program.

History: 1971 c. 228

#### 146.35 Emergency medical services. (1)

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN — ADVANCED (PARAMEDIC) DEFINED.** As used in this section, "emergency medical technician — advanced (paramedic)" means a person who is specially trained in emergency cardiac, trauma and other lifesaving or emergency procedures in a training program or course of instruction prescribed by the department and who is examined and licensed by the department as qualified to render the following services:

(a) Render rescue, emergency care and resuscitation services.

(b) While caring for patients in a hospital administer parenteral medications under the direct supervision of a licensed physician or registered nurse.

(c) Perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation and defibrillation on a pulseless, nonbreathing patient.

(d) Where voice contact with or without a telemetered electrocardiogram is monitored by a licensed physician and direct communication is maintained, upon order of such physician perform the following:

1. Administer intravenous solutions.

2. Perform gastric and endotracheal intubation.

3. Administer parenteral injections.

(e) Perform other emergency medical procedures prescribed by rule by the department.

(2) **DEFINITIONS; OTHER.** In this section:

(a) "Department" means the department of health and social services.

(b) "Secretary" means the secretary of health and social services.

(3) **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROGRAMS.** Any county, municipality, hospital or combination thereof may, after submission of a plan approved by the department, conduct a program utilizing emergency medical technicians — advanced (paramedics) for the delivery of emergency medical care to the sick and injured at the scene of an emergency and during transport to a hospital, while in the hospital emergency department, and until care responsibility is assumed by the regular hospital staff. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the operation of fire department, police department or other emergency vehicles utilizing the services of emergency medical technicians — advanced (paramedics) in conjunction with a program approved by the department. Hospitals which offer approved training courses for emergency medical technicians — advanced (paramedics) should, if feasible, serve as the base of operation for approved programs utilizing emergency medical technicians — advanced (paramedics).

(4) **LICENSING OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS — ADVANCED (PARAMEDICS).**

(a) No person shall be employed as an emergency medical technician — advanced (paramedic) in conjunction with an emergency medical services program authorized under sub.

(3) unless he holds an emergency medical technician — advanced (paramedic) license issued under this section. Persons so licensed may perform all procedures specified in sub. (1) under the conditions and circumstances set forth



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in this section and prescribed by rule of the department.

(b) The department shall license emergency medical technicians — advanced (paramedics) and may establish reasonable license fees. A license is not transferable and shall be valid for the balance of the license year or until surrendered for cancellation or suspended or revoked for violation of this section or any other law or rule relating to an emergency medical technician — advanced (paramedic). Any denial of issuance or renewal, suspension or revocation of a license shall be subject to review in accordance with chapter H-1 of the Wisconsin administrative code or ch. 227.

(5) **QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSURE.** To be eligible for an emergency medical technician — advanced (paramedic) license a person shall:

(a) Be at least 18 years of age, of good moral character and physically and emotionally capable of performing the duties of an emergency medical technician — advanced (paramedic).

(b) Satisfactorily complete a course of instruction prescribed by the department or present evidence satisfactory to the department of sufficient education and training in the field of emergency medical care.

(c) Pass an examination approved by the department.

(d) Have such additional qualifications as may be required by rule of the department.

(6) **RENEWAL OF LICENSE.** Every holder of an emergency medical technician — advanced (paramedic) license shall renew it annually on July 1, by making application on forms provided by the department. A renewal shall be granted unless the department finds that the applicant has acted or failed to act in such a manner or under such circumstances as would constitute grounds for suspension or revocation of a license. As a prerequisite to renewal, the department may by rule provide for the reexamination of licensed emergency medical technicians — advanced (paramedics).

(7) **TRAINING.** The department shall approve and may conduct or arrange for courses sufficient to meet the education and training requirements of this section and shall make such courses available to counties, municipalities and hospitals conducting approved emergency medical services programs authorized under this section. The department shall by rule establish a system for the issuance of temporary training permits, to be issued at a reasonable fee. A person issued a temporary training permit may perform all medical procedures specified in this section when performed in the presence and under the direction of a training instructor.

(8) **RULES.** The secretary may adopt all rules necessary for the administration of this section and prescribe emergency medical service equipment and standards therefor.

(10) **UNLICENSED OPERATION.** Notwithstanding the existence or pursuit of any other remedy, the department may, in the manner provided by law, upon the advice of the attorney general, who shall represent the department in all proceedings, institute an action in the name of the state against any person, organization or agency, public or private, to restrain or prevent the establishment, management or operation of any emergency medical services program without the licensed personnel required by this section or in violation of the provisions of this section or any department rule promulgated hereunder.

(11) **LIABILITY INSURANCE.** The department shall, as a condition to the approval of any emergency medical services program under sub. (3), require adequate liability insurance sufficient to protect all emergency medical technicians — advanced (paramedics) and physicians from civil liability resulting from the good faith performance of duties authorized under this section.

(12) **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ACT.** This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Emergency Medical Services Act".

**History:** 1973 c. 322; 1975 c. 39 ss 643 to 643m, 732 (2); 1977 c. 29, 325; 1979 c. 154.

See note to 146.50, citing 68 Atty. Gen. 299

**146.36 Cystic fibrosis aids.** (1) The state may provide financial assistance for costs of medical care of financially needy persons over the age of 18 years with the diagnosis of cystic fibrosis. This section shall be administered by the division for handicapped children which shall adopt rules, including eligibility standards, and establish procedures for administration of this section.

(2) Approved costs for medical care under sub. (1) shall be paid from the appropriation under s. 20.255 (1) (bc).

**History:** 1973 c. 300; 1973 c. 336 s. 55; 1975 c. 39; 1979 c. 34 s. 2102 (43) (a).

**146.37 Health care services review; civil immunity.** (1) No person acting in good faith who participates in the review or evaluation of the services of health care providers or facilities or the charges for such services conducted in connection with any program organized and operated to help improve the quality of health care, to avoid improper utilization of the services of health care providers or facilities or to determine the reasonable charges for such services is liable for any civil damages as a result of any act

or omission by such person in the course of such review or evaluation.

(2) In determining whether a member of the reviewing or evaluating organization has acted in good faith under sub. (1), the court shall consider whether such member has sought to prevent the health care provider or facility and its counsel from examining the documents and records used in the review or evaluation, from presenting witnesses, establishing pertinent facts and circumstances, questioning or refuting testimony and evidence, confronting and cross-examining adverse witnesses or from receiving a copy of the final report or recommendation of the reviewing organization.

(3) This section applies to any person acting in good faith who participates in the review or evaluation of the services of a psychiatrist, or facilities or charges for services of a psychiatrist, conducted in connection with any organization, association or program organized or operated to help improve the quality of psychiatric services, avoid improper utilization of psychiatric services or determine reasonable charges for psychiatric services. This immunity includes, but is not limited to, acts such as censuring, reprimanding or taking other disciplinary action against a psychiatrist for unethical or improper conduct.

History: 1975 c. 187; 1979 c. 221.

**146.38 Health care services review; confidentiality of information.** (1) No person who participates in the review or evaluation of the services of health care providers or facilities or charges for such services may disclose any information acquired in connection with such review or evaluation except as provided in sub. (3).

(2) All organizations reviewing or evaluating the services of health care providers shall keep a record of their investigations, inquiries, proceedings and conclusions. No such record may be released to any person under s. 804.10 (4) or otherwise except as provided in sub. (3). No such record may be used in any civil action for personal injuries against the health care provider or facility; however, information, documents or records presented during the review or evaluation may not be construed as immune from discovery under s. 804.10 (4) or use in any civil action merely because they were so presented. Any person who testifies during or participates in the review or evaluation may testify in any civil action as to matters within his or her knowledge, but may not testify as to information obtained through his or her participation in the review or evaluation, nor as to any conclusion of such review or evaluation.

(3) Information acquired in connection with the review and evaluation of health care services

shall be disclosed and records of such review and evaluation shall be released, with the identity of any patient whose treatment is reviewed being withheld unless the patient has granted permission to disclose identity, in the following circumstances:

(a) To the health care provider or facility whose services are being reviewed or evaluated, upon the request of such provider or facility;

(b) To any person with the consent of the health care provider or facility whose services are being reviewed or evaluated;

(c) To the person requesting the review or evaluation, for use solely for the purpose of improving the quality of health care, avoiding the improper utilization of the services of health care providers and facilities, and determining the reasonable charges for such services;

(d) In a report in statistical form, without identification of providers or facilities reviewed or evaluated, for educational purposes to the public or to any interested person;

(e) With regard to any criminal matter, to a court of record, in accordance with chs. 885 to 895 and after issuance of a subpoena; and

(f) To the appropriate examining or licensing board or agency, when the organization conducting the review or evaluation determines that such action is advisable.

(4) Any person who discloses information or releases a record in violation of this section, other than through a good faith mistake, is civilly liable therefor to any person harmed by the disclosure or release.

History: 1975 c. 187; 1979 c. 89.

**146.50 Ambulance service providers and ambulance attendants.** (1) DEFINITIONS. In this section:

(a) "Ambulance" means an emergency vehicle, including any motor vehicle, boat or aircraft, whether privately or publicly owned, which is designed, constructed or equipped to transport patients.

(b) "Ambulance service provider" means a person engaged in the business of transporting sick, disabled or injured persons by ambulance to or from facilities or institutions providing health services.

(c) "Ambulance attendant" means a person who is responsible for the administration of emergency care procedures, proper handling and transporting of the sick, disabled or injured persons, including but not limited to, ambulance attendants and ambulance drivers.

(d) "Department" means the department of health and social services.

(e) "Person" includes any individual, firm, partnership, association, corporation, trust, foundation, company, any governmental agency

other than the U.S. government, or any group of individuals, however named, concerned with the operation of an ambulance.

(f) "Secretary" means the secretary of health and social services.

(2) **AMBULANCE SERVICE PROVIDER AND AMBULANCE ATTENDANT LICENSES REQUIRED.** Except as provided in sub. (4), no person may operate as an ambulance service provider or an ambulance attendant unless the person holds an ambulance service provider license or ambulance attendant license issued under this section.

(3) **RULES.** The secretary may adopt rules necessary for administration of this section.

(4) **EXCEPTION.** An ambulance attendant license is not required for an ambulance driver if the driver does not administer emergency care procedures or handle sick, injured or disabled persons and 2 licensed ambulance attendants, emergency medical technicians-advanced (paramedics), registered nurses, physician's assistants or physicians or any combination thereof or one licensed ambulance attendant and one person holding a temporary permit issued under sub. (9) are present in the ambulance.

(5) **LICENSING OF AMBULANCE SERVICE PROVIDERS AND AMBULANCE ATTENDANTS.** The department shall license ambulance service providers and ambulance attendants. An ambulance service provider shall not be required to take an examination for licensure. A license is nontransferable and shall be valid for the balance of the license year or until surrendered for cancellation or suspended or revoked for violation of this section or of any other laws or rules relating to ambulance service providers or ambulance attendants. The department may charge a reasonable fee for licensure under this section, but no fee may be charged to persons working for volunteer or paid-on-call ambulance service providers or to municipal or county employees. Any denial of issuance or renewal, suspension or revocation of a license shall be subject to review upon the timely request of the licensee directed to the department, in accordance with chapter H-1 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code or ch. 227.

(6) **QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSING OF AMBULANCE ATTENDANTS.** To be eligible for an ambulance attendant's license a person shall:

(a) Be not less than 18 years of age, of good moral character and physically and emotionally capable of performing the duties of an ambulance attendant.

(b) Have satisfactorily completed a course of instruction and training prescribed by the department or have presented evidence satisfactory to the department of sufficient education and training in the field of emergency care.

(c) Have passed an examination approved by the department.

(d) Have such additional qualifications as may be required by the department.

(7) **LICENSING IN OTHER JURISDICTIONS.** The department may issue an ambulance attendant's license, without examination, to any person who holds a current license as an ambulance attendant from another jurisdiction if the department finds that the standards for licensing in such other jurisdiction are at least the substantial equivalent of those prevailing in this state, and that the applicant is otherwise qualified.

(8) **PROVISIONAL LICENSE.** Any person who, on December 30, 1974, has been actively engaged as an ambulance attendant or is enrolled in an acceptable training program and who does not meet the requirements for licensing, shall be issued a provisional license for one year without the need to present evidence of satisfactory completion of a course of instruction and training and without examination. A provisional license may be renewed for just cause, except that a provisional license shall not be renewed more than 3 times.

(9) **TRAINING.** (a) The department may arrange for or approve courses of instructional programs within or without this state as sufficient to meet the education and training requirements of this section and shall make the courses available to the residents of this state and to persons holding a provisional license. The courses shall be free of charge to any person who holds an ambulance attendant license, an ambulance service provider license or a provisional license and who is employed by a county, city, village or town. If the department determines that an area or community need exists, the courses shall be offered at vocational, technical and adult education schools in such area or community. Initial priority shall be given to the training of ambulance attendants serving the rural areas of the state. If a licensed ambulance attendant completes a course approved by the department on treatment of anaphylactic shock, the ambulance attendant acts within the scope of the license if he or she performs injections or other treatment for anaphylactic shock under the direction of a physician.

(b) The department shall by rule establish a system of training and temporary permits, to be issued, at a reasonable fee, but no fee may be charged to persons working for volunteer or

paid-on-call ambulance service providers or to municipal or county employees. All temporary permit applications shall be signed by licensed ambulance service providers. Persons holding temporary permits shall work only with licensed ambulance attendants.

**(10) RENEWAL OF LICENSE.** Every holder of an ambulance service provider license or an ambulance attendant license shall renew it annually on July 1, by making application to the department on forms provided by the department. A renewal shall be granted unless the department finds that the applicant has acted or failed to act in such a manner or under such circumstances as would constitute grounds for suspension or revocation of such license.

**(11) UNLICENSED OPERATION.** Notwithstanding the existence or pursuit of any other remedy, the department may, in the manner provided by law, upon the advice of the attorney general, who shall represent the department in all proceedings, institute an action in the name of the state against any person or agency to restrain or prevent the establishment, management or operation of an ambulance service without the licensed personnel required by this section.

**History:** 1973 c. 321; 1975 c. 39 ss. 645 to 647d, 732 (2); 1975 c. 224; 1977 c. 29, 167; 1979 c. 321

Discussion of malpractice liability of state officers and employees. 67 Atty. Gen. 145.

Department may authorize ambulance attendants to perform emergency care services under 146.35 (1). Attendants can perform those services under proper supervision of a physician. 68 Atty. Gen. 299.

**146.60 Prospective hospital rates. (1) CONTRACT RATES.** The department may enter into a contract with the Wisconsin hospital association and associated hospital services for the purpose of setting hospital rates prospectively.

**(2) DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

(a) "Hospital" means any health care institution approved under ss. 50.32 to 50.39 and hospitals established under ss. 46.21, 49.16 and 142.05.

(b) "Rates" means the fees, charges and rates of reimbursement payable to a hospital for patient health care, including, but not limited to, those made for space, equipment, materials and services.

(c) "Contract" means the policies and procedures governing the hospital rate review program, which agreement is mutually based involving the Wisconsin hospital association, associated hospital services, and the department of health and social services.

**History:** 1975 c. 224; 1977 c. 203 s. 106.

National health planning and resources development act of 1974 does not preclude Wisconsin hospital rate review

committee from considering excess bed capacity in determining reasonableness of hospital's rate increase. 68 Atty. Gen. 383.

**146.61 Home health service agency supplement.** The department shall administer a state supplement to promote the expansion of certified home health service agencies in the state. Grants shall be provided to qualified counties from the appropriation under s. 20.435 (1) (fm) to create home health agencies where none exist and expand service capability when the agency is less than 3 years old. State funds shall not be expended to maintain the current level of effort in a county or when federal support is available. The program shall terminate on June 30, 1981.

**History:** 1977 c. 29.

**146.70 Statewide emergency services number. (1) DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

(a) "Automatic location identification" means a system which has the ability to automatically identify the address of the telephone being used by the caller and to provide a display at the central location of a sophisticated system.

(b) "Automatic number identification" means a system which has the ability to automatically identify the caller's telephone number and to provide a display at the central location of a sophisticated system.

(c) "Basic system" means a telephone system which automatically connects a person dialing the digits "911" to a designated answering point in a public agency.

(d) "Department" means the department of administration.

(e) "Direct dispatch method" means a telephone system providing for the dispatch of an appropriate emergency service vehicle upon receipt of a telephone request for such service.

(f) "Public agency" means any municipality as defined in s. 345.05 (1) (a) which provides or is authorized to provide fire fighting, law enforcement, ambulance, medical or other emergency services.

(g) "Public safety agency" means a functional division of a public agency which provides fire fighting, law enforcement, medical or other emergency services.

(h) "Relay method" means a telephone system whereby a request for emergency services is received and relayed to a provider of emergency services by telephone.

(i) "Sophisticated system" means a basic system with automatic location identification and automatic number identification.

(j) "Telephone utility" means any public utility as defined in s. 196.01 (1) which is engaged in the business of supplying the public

with telephone and telephonic service or operating a telephone exchange.

(k) "Transfer method" means a telephone system which receives telephone requests for emergency services and transfers such requests directly to an appropriate public safety agency or other provider of emergency services.

(2) **EMERGENCY PHONE SYSTEM.** (a) Every public agency, except a state agency, shall establish and maintain within its respective jurisdiction by December 31, 1987, a basic or sophisticated system as required by this section. Such a system shall be in a central location.

(b) Every basic or sophisticated system established under this section shall be capable of transmitting requests for law enforcement, fire fighting and emergency medical and ambulance services to the public safety agencies providing such services. Such system may provide for transmittal of requests for poison control, suicide prevention and civil defense services and may be capable of transmitting requests to ambulance services provided by private corporations. If any agency of the state which provides law enforcement, fire fighting, emergency medical or ambulance services is located within the boundaries of a basic or sophisticated system required by this section, such system shall be capable of transmitting requests for the services of such agency to the agency.

(c) The digits "911" shall be the primary emergency telephone number within every basic or sophisticated system established under this section. A public agency or public safety agency shall maintain a separate 7-digit phone number for nonemergency telephone calls. Every such agency may maintain separate secondary 7-digit back-up numbers.

(d) Public agencies, including agencies with different territorial boundaries, may combine to establish a basic or sophisticated system as required by this section.

(e) If a public agency or group of public agencies combined to establish an emergency phone system under par. (d) has a population of 250,000 or more, such agency or group of agencies shall establish a sophisticated system by December 31, 1987.

(f) Every basic or sophisticated system established under this section shall utilize the direct dispatch method, the relay method or the transfer method.

(g) Every telephone utility providing coin-operated telephones for public use shall convert, by December 31, 1987, all such telephones to telephones which enable a user to reach "911" without inserting a coin. Any coin-operated telephone installed by a telephone utility after December 31, 1987, shall enable a user to reach "911" without inserting a coin.

(3) **EMERGENCY NUMBER SYSTEMS BOARD.**

(a) The emergency number systems board shall provide policy directions relating to the development, operation, coordination and review of emergency number systems.

(b) The board shall advise the department concerning the department's duties under this section.

(c) The board, on the advice of one or more of the agencies named under sub. (5), may grant to a public agency or telephone utility a waiver, not to exceed 5 years, of any requirement under this section. The board may not grant more than one waiver under this paragraph within any one system.

(d) The board shall advise the department concerning the department's plan for allocation of funds under s. 20.505 (9) (a).

(4) **DUTIES OF DEPARTMENT.** (a) The department, in consultation with and with the approval of the emergency number systems board, shall promulgate such rules under ch. 227 as are deemed necessary to coordinate and implement this section.

(b) The department shall review every plan submitted under sub. (11) (b) and shall either approve or disapprove the plan unless the plan was announced prior to May 24, 1978.

(c) The department may make a final inspection of each system established under this section to determine if the system meets the requirements of this section.

(d) The department shall assist public agencies, except state agencies, in obtaining financial aid to establish emergency phone systems and shall assist such agencies in the formulation of concepts, methods and procedures which will improve the operation of such systems.

(e) The department shall consult regularly with the telephone utilities in this state concerning the delivery of services under this section.

(5) **OTHER DEPARTMENTS TO AID.** Upon the request of the secretary of the department, the departments of justice, administration, natural resources, transportation and health and social services and the public service commission shall provide to the department the assistance necessary to enable it to perform the duties specified in this section.

(6) **TELEPHONE UTILITY REQUIREMENTS.**

(a) By March 1, 1980, and every year thereafter until every public agency within the jurisdiction of which the telephone utility operates has fully implemented an operating basic or sophisticated emergency number system as required under this section, every telephone utility shall include as part of its annual report to the public service commission a report, a copy of which shall be submitted to the department, in such detail as

the department requires, specifying the extent to which the telephone utility has participated in the implementation of basic or sophisticated systems as required by this section and specifying the telephone utility's plans for future participation in the implementation of such systems.

(b) By December 31, 1985, a telephone utility serving a public agency or group of public agencies required to have a sophisticated system under sub. (2) (e) shall provide such public agency or group of public agencies access to the telephone numbers of subscribers and the addresses associated with the numbers as needed to implement automatic number identification and automatic location identification in a sophisticated system, but such information shall at all times remain under the direct control of the telephone utility and a telephone utility may not be required to release a number and associated address to a public agency or group of public agencies unless a call to the telephone number "911" has been made from such number. The costs of such access shall be paid by the public agency or group of public agencies.

(7) **TELEPHONE UTILITY NOT LIABLE.** A telephone utility shall not be liable to any person who uses an emergency number system created under this section if the telephone utility's participation in the system complies with the rules of the department under sub. (4).

(8) **PUBLIC AGENCY REQUIREMENTS.** By March 31, 1980, and every year thereafter until it has fully implemented an operating basic or sophisticated emergency number system as required under this section, every public agency shall submit a report to the department, in such detail as the department requires, specifying the extent to which the public agency has implemented a basic or sophisticated system.

(9) **JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT.** (a) In implementing a basic or sophisticated system under this section, public agencies combined under sub. (2) (d) shall annually enter into a joint powers agreement. The agreement shall be applicable on a daily basis and shall provide that if an emergency services vehicle is dispatched in response to a request through the basic or sophisticated system established under this section, such vehicle shall render its services to the persons needing the services regardless of whether the vehicle is operating outside the vehicle's normal jurisdictional boundaries.

(b) Public agencies and public safety agencies which have contiguous or overlapping boundaries and which have established separate basic or sophisticated systems under this section shall annually enter into the agreement required under par. (a).

(c) Copies of the annual agreement required by pars. (a) and (b) shall be filed with the departments of justice and administration. Commencing with the year 1987, all agreements required under this subsection shall be filed prior to January 31. If a public agency or public safety agency fails to enter into such agreement or to file copies thereof, the department of justice shall commence judicial proceedings to enforce compliance with this subsection.

(10) **PENALTY.** Any person who intentionally dials the telephone number "911" to report an emergency, knowing that the fact situation which he or she reports does not exist, shall be fined not less than \$50 nor more than \$200.

(11) **IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE.** (a) The department, in consultation with and with the approval of the emergency number systems board, shall establish operational standards for public agencies or groups of public agencies operating basic and sophisticated systems established under this section by December 31, 1979. The department shall consult with the departments named under sub. (5) in establishing such standards.

(b) On or before January 1, 1981, every public agency shall submit tentative plans for the establishment of a basic or sophisticated system as required under this section to the telephone utility providing service within the respective boundaries of such public agency. Such plans shall also be filed with the department. On or before January 1, 1983, every public agency shall submit final plans for the establishment of such systems to the telephone utility and shall provide for the implementation of the plans by December 31, 1987. A copy of such final plan shall also be filed with the department. If a public agency has established a basic or sophisticated system as required by this section prior to the deadline specified in this paragraph, the agency shall submit a report describing the system and stating the date the system began to operate. Every plan or report filed under this paragraph shall provide for a system, which conforms to the standards set forth by the department under par. (a).

History: 1977 c. 392; 1979 c. 34, 361.

**146.80 Family planning. (1) DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

(a) "Family planning" means voluntary action by individuals to prevent or aid conception but does not include the performance, promotion or encouragement of voluntary termination of pregnancy.

(b) "Family planning services" mean counseling by trained personnel regarding family planning; distribution of information relating to

family planning; and referral to licensed physicians or local health agencies for consultation, examination, medical treatment and prescriptions for the purpose of family planning, but does not include the performance of voluntary termination of pregnancy.

(2) **DEPARTMENT'S DUTIES.** (a) The department shall provide for delivery of family planning services throughout the state by developing and by annually reviewing and updating a state plan for community-based family planning programs.

(b) The department shall allocate state and federal family planning funds under its control in a manner which will promote the development and maintenance of an integrated system of community health services. It shall maximize the use of existing community family planning services by encouraging local contractual arrangements.

(c) The department shall coordinate the delivery of family planning services by allocating family planning funds in a manner which maximizes coordination between the agencies.

(d) The department shall encourage maximum coordination of family planning services between county social services departments, family planning agencies and local health agencies to maximize the use of health, social service and welfare resources.

(e) The department shall promulgate all rules necessary to implement and administer this section.

(3) **INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS, MEDICAL PRIVILEGE.** (a) The request of any person for family planning services or his or her refusal to accept any service shall in no way affect the right of the person to receive public assistance, public health services or any other public service. Nothing in this section may abridge the right of the individual to make decisions concerning family planning, nor may any individual be required to state his or her reason for refusing any offer of family planning services.

(b) Any employe of the agencies engaged in the administration of the provisions of this section may refuse to accept the duty of offering family planning services to the extent that the duty is contrary to his or her personal beliefs. A refusal may not be grounds for dismissal, suspension, demotion, or any other discrimination in employment. The directors or supervisors of the agencies shall reassign the duties of employes in order to carry out the provisions of this section.

(c) All information gathered by any agency, entity or person conducting programs in family planning, other than statistical information compiled without reference to the identity of any

individual or other information which the individual allows to be released through his or her informed consent, shall be considered a confidential medical record.

**History:** 1977 c. 418; 1979 c. 89.

Toward greater reproductive freedom: Wisconsin's new family planning act. 1979 WLR 509.

**146.81 Definitions.** In ss. 146.81 to 146.83:

(1) "Health care provider" means a nurse registered or licensed under ch. 441, a chiropractor licensed under ch. 446, a dentist licensed under ch. 447, a physician, podiatrist or physical therapist licensed under ch. 448, an optometrist licensed under ch. 449, a psychologist licensed under ch. 455, a partnership thereof, a corporation thereof that provides health care services, an operational cooperative sickness care plan organized under ss. 185.981 to 185.985 that directly provides services through salaried employes in its own facility, or an inpatient health care facility as defined in s. 140.85 (1).

(2) "Informed consent" means written consent to the disclosure of information from patient health care records to an individual, agency or organization containing the name of the patient whose record is being disclosed, the purpose of the disclosure, the type of information to be disclosed, the individual, agency or organization to which disclosure may be made, the types of health care providers making the disclosure, the signature of the patient or the person authorized by the patient, the date on which the consent is signed and the time period during which the consent is effective.

(3) "Patient" means a person who receives health care services from a health care provider.

(4) "Patient health care records" means all records related to the health of a patient prepared by or under the supervision of a health care provider, but not those records subject to s. 51.30.

(5) "Person authorized by the patient" means the parent, guardian or legal custodian of a minor patient, as defined in s. 48.02 (9) and (11), the guardian of a patient adjudged incompetent, as defined in s. 880.01 (3) and (4), the personal representative or spouse of a deceased patient or any person authorized in writing by the patient. If no spouse survives a deceased patient, "person authorized by the patient" also means an adult member of the deceased patient's immediate family, as defined in s. 632.78 (3) (d). A court may appoint a temporary guardian for a patient believed incompetent to consent to the release of records under this section as the person authorized by the patient to decide upon the release of records, if no guardian has been appointed for the patient.

**History:** 1979 c. 221.

**146.82 Confidentiality of patient health care records. (1)** CONFIDENTIALITY. All patient health care records shall remain confidential. Patient health care records may be released only to the persons designated in this section or to other persons with the informed consent of the patient or of a person authorized by the patient.

**(2) ACCESS WITHOUT INFORMED CONSENT.**

(a) Notwithstanding sub. (1), patient health care records shall be released upon request without informed consent in the following circumstances:

1. To health care facility staff committees, or accreditation or health care services review organizations for the purposes of conducting management audits, financial audits, program monitoring and evaluation, health care services reviews or accreditation.

2. To the extent that performance of their duties requires access to the records, to a health care provider or any person acting under the supervision of a health care provider or to a person licensed under s. 146.35 or 146.50, including but not limited to medical staff members, employees or persons serving in training programs or participating in volunteer programs and affiliated with the health care provider, if:

a. The person is rendering assistance to the patient;

b. The person is being consulted regarding the health of the patient; or

c. The life or health of the patient appears to be in danger and the information contained in the patient health care records may aid the person in rendering assistance.

3. To the extent that the records are needed for billing, collection or payment of claims.

4. Under a lawful order of a court of record.

5. In response to a written request by any federal or state governmental agency to perform a legally authorized function, including but not limited to management audits, financial audits, program monitoring and evaluation, facility licensure or certification or individual licensure or certification. The private pay patient may deny access granted under this subdivision by annually submitting to the health care provider a signed, written request on a form provided by the department. The provider, if a hospital or nursing home, shall submit a copy of the signed form to the patient's physician.

6. For purposes of research if the researcher is affiliated with the health care provider and

provides written assurances to the custodian of the patient health care records that the information will be used only for the purposes for which it is provided to the researcher, the information will not be released to a person not connected with the study, and the final product of the research will not reveal information that may serve to identify the patient whose records are being released under this paragraph without the informed consent of the patient. The private pay patient may deny access granted under this subdivision by annually submitting to the health care provider a signed, written request on a form provided by the department.

(b) Unless authorized by a court of record, the recipient of any information under par. (a) shall keep the information confidential and may not disclose identifying information about the patient whose patient health care records are released.

History: 1979 c. 221.

**146.83 Patient access to health care records. (1)** Except as provided in s. 51.30 or 146.82 (2), any patient or other person may, upon submitting a statement of informed consent:

(a) Inspect the health care records of a health care provider pertaining to that patient at any time during regular business hours, upon reasonable notice.

(b) Receive a copy of the patient's health care records upon payment of reasonable costs.

(c) Receive a copy of the health care provider's X-ray reports or have the X-rays referred to another health care provider of the patient's choice upon payment of reasonable costs.

**(2)** The health care provider shall provide each patient with a statement paraphrasing the provisions of this section either upon admission to an inpatient health care facility, as defined in s. 140.85 (1), or upon the first provision of services by the health care provider after April 30, 1980.

**(3)** The health care provider shall note the time and date of each request by a patient or person authorized by the patient to inspect the patient's health care records, the name of the inspecting person, the time and date of inspection and identify the records released for inspection.

History: 1979 c. 221.