

---

# Wisconsin Legislative Council

## ACT MEMO

---



**Prepared by:** Steve McCarthy, Staff Attorney

March 3, 2020

**2019 Wisconsin Act 117**  
[2019 Assembly Bill 644]

**Outagamie County School-Based  
Mental Health Consultation Pilot  
Program**

### 2019 WISCONSIN ACT 117

The act requires the Department of Health Services (DHS) to create and administer a school-based mental health consultation pilot program in Outagamie County and to provide funds for the operation of the pilot program to an organization that already provides consultation services through the child psychiatry consultation program.

The act includes general fund appropriation for fiscal year 2020-2021 in the amount of \$175,000, and provides that DHS must allocate \$175,000 in each fiscal year in, at least, fiscal years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022, to the organization providing the services under the pilot program. The act also lapses \$175,000 to the general fund from a prior existing DHS appropriation account for certain mental health pilot projects.

The organization that operates the pilot program must assist participating school-based providers in providing enhanced care to students with mental health care needs, provide referral support for those students, and provide all of the following additional services:

- Support for participating school-based providers to assist in the management of students with mental health problems and to provide referral support for students.
- A triage-level assessment to determine the most appropriate response to each request, including appropriate referrals to other mental health professionals.
- When medically appropriate, diagnostic and therapeutic feedback.
- Recruitment of other practices in Outagamie County to the provider's services.

By August 1, 2022, DHS must submit a report on the school-based mental health consultation pilot program to the standing committees of the Legislature with jurisdiction over health.

**Effective date:** March 4, 2020

SM:mca;ty