



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

**January 2018 Special Session
Assembly Bill 8**

Assembly Amendment 1

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JANUARY 2018 SPECIAL SESSION ASSEMBLY BILL 8

January 2018 Special Session Assembly Bill 8 revises the current requirement for a custodial parent who is receiving Medical Assistance to cooperate in establishing paternity for a nonmarital child and in obtaining child support or any other payments for a dependent child.

Rather than a general condition of eligibility for Medical Assistance, the bill revises the language in the requirement to more specifically apply only to an able-bodied adult, and expands the requirement beyond a child support recipient to require cooperation and timely payments by a parent who is obligated to pay child support, with some exceptions.

The bill defines an “able-bodied” adult as a person between ages 18 and 64 who is not disabled, and who is able-bodied as additionally defined by the Department of Health Services.

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1

Assembly Amendment 1 adds that an “able-bodied” adult who is subject to the child support compliance requirement does not include a woman who is pregnant. The amendment also removes references to a child support order being made by a “court,” in order to recognize administrative or other child support actions. Lastly, the amendment requires notification of the child support compliance requirement at the time a person applies for Medical Assistance.

BILL HISTORY

Assembly Amendment 1 was offered by Representative Vos on February 2, 2018. On February 6, 2018, the Assembly Committee on Public Benefit Reform recommended adoption of the amendment, and recommended passage of the bill, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 5; Noes, 3.

On February 15, 2018, the Assembly adopted the amendment on a voice vote, and passed the bill, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 62; Noes, 35.

MSK;jal;mcm