



1995 SENATE BILL 233

June 1, 1995 – Introduced by Senators MOORE, BURKE, GEORGE, RISSER, DARLING and FARROW, cosponsored by Representatives MORRIS-TATUM, CULLEN, L. YOUNG, TURNER, RILEY, BALDWIN, BOYLE and BOCK. Referred to Committee on Health, Human Services and Aging.

1 **AN ACT to create** 15.07 (1) (a) 6., 15.07 (5) (qm), 15.77, 20.545 and 146.185 of the
2 statutes; **relating to:** establishing a minority health board, creating a program
3 of grants to improve the health status of economically disadvantaged minority
4 group members and making appropriations.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill establishes, as an independent agency, a 14-member minority health board. The bill specifies various duties of the minority health board that are related to issues of concern to the health interests of economically disadvantaged minority group members, as defined in the bill. The bill provides funding of general purpose revenues in fiscal years 1995–96 and 1996–97 for general program operations of the minority health board and for a program of grants that the minority health board must award for activities to improve the health status of economically disadvantaged minority group members. The minority health board must biennially submit a report on its activities to the governor and to the standing committees of the legislature.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** 15.07 (1) (a) 6. of the statutes is created to read:
6 15.07 (1) (a) 6. Members of the minority health board appointed under s. 15.77
7 (1) to (3) shall be appointed as provided in that section.
8 **SECTION 2.** 15.07 (5) (qm) of the statutes is created to read:

				1995-96	1996-97
1	(a)	General program operations	GPR A	168,100	196,000
2	(b)	Grants to improve health status			
3		of minority group members	GPR C	300,000	300,000

4 **SECTION 5.** 20.545 of the statutes is created to read:

5 **20.545 Minority health board.** There is appropriated to the minority health
6 board for the following program:

7 **(1) IMPROVEMENT OF MINORITY HEALTH STATUS.** (a) *General program operations.*
8 The amounts in the schedule for the staff salaries and general program operations
9 of the minority health board.

10 (b) *Grants to improve health status of minority group members.* As a continuing
11 appropriation, the amounts in the schedule to make grants for activities to improve
12 the health status of minority group members under s. 146.185 (5).

13 (i) *Gifts and grants.* All moneys received as contributions, gifts, grants and
14 bequests for the activities of the minority health board, to carry out the purposes for
15 which made and received.

16 (ky) *Interagency and intra-agency aids.* All moneys received from other state
17 agencies and all moneys received by the board from the board for aids to individuals
18 and organizations.

19 (kz) *Interagency and intra-agency local assistance.* All moneys received from
20 other state agencies and all moneys received by the board from the board for local
21 assistance.

1 (na) *Federal program operations.* All moneys received from the federal
2 government or any of its agencies for the state administration and general program
3 operations of the minority health board.

4 (nb) *Federal program aids.* All moneys received from the federal government
5 or any of its agencies for continuing programs to be expended as aids to individuals
6 or organizations for the purposes specified.

7 (nL) *Federal program local assistance.* All moneys received from the federal
8 government or any of its agencies for continuing programs to be expended as local
9 assistance for the purposes specified.

10 **SECTION 6.** 146.185 of the statutes is created to read:

11 **146.185 Minority health board.** (1) In this section:

12 (a) "African American" means a person whose ancestors originated in any of the
13 black racial groups of Africa.

14 (b) "American Indian" means a person who is enrolled as a member of a
15 federally recognized American Indian tribe or band or who possesses documentation
16 of at least one-fourth American Indian ancestry or documentation of tribal
17 recognition as an American Indian.

18 (c) "Asian" means a person whose ancestors originated in Asia south and
19 southeast of the Himalayas and west of Wallace's Line in the Malay Archipelago.

20 (d) "Board" means the minority health board.

21 (e) "Economically disadvantaged" means having an income that is at or below
22 125% of the poverty line.

23 (f) "Hispanic" means a person of any race whose ancestors originated in Mexico,
24 Puerto Rico, Cuba, Central America or South America or whose culture or origin is
25 Spanish.

1 (g) "Minority group member" means any of the following:

2 1. An African American.

3 2. An American Indian.

4 3. A Hispanic.

5 4. An Asian.

6 (h) "Poverty line" means the nonfarm federal poverty line for the continental
7 United States, as defined by the federal department of labor under 42 USC 9902 (2).

8 (i) "State agency" has the meaning given in s. 16.004 (12) (a).

9 **(2)** The board shall do all of the following:

10 (a) Identify the barriers to health care that prevent economically
11 disadvantaged minority group members in this state from participating fully and
12 equally in all aspects of life.

13 (b) Conduct statewide hearings on issues of concern to the health interests of
14 economically disadvantaged minority group members.

15 (c) Review, monitor and advise all state agencies with respect to the impact on
16 the health of economically disadvantaged minority group members of current and
17 emerging state policies, procedures, practices, statutes and rules.

18 (d) Work closely with all state agencies, including the University of Wisconsin
19 System and the technical college system, with the private sector and with groups
20 concerned with issues of the health of economically disadvantaged minority group
21 members to develop long-term solutions to health problems of minority group
22 members.

23 (e) Disseminate information on the status of the health of economically
24 disadvantaged minority group members in this state.

1 (f) Encourage economically disadvantaged minority group members who are
2 students to enter career health care professions, by developing materials that are
3 culturally sensitive and appropriate and that promote health care professions as
4 careers, for use by the University of Wisconsin System, the technical college system
5 and the Medical College of Wisconsin in recruiting the students.

6 (g) Submit a biennial report on the activities of the board to the governor and
7 the appropriate standing committees under s. 13.172 (3).

8 **(3)** The board may do all of the following:

9 (a) Accept gifts, grants, bequests and devises for the purposes of this section
10 without approval under s. 20.907 (1) of the joint committee on finance.

11 (b) Contract with any state agency to carry out the activities of the board.

12 **(4)** A representative of a state agency shall do any of the following that is
13 requested by the board:

14 (a) Provide information on program policies, procedures, practices and services
15 affecting the health status of economically disadvantaged minority group members.

16 (b) Present recommendations to the board.

17 (c) Attend meetings and provide staff assistance needed by the board.

18 (d) Inform the state agency's appointing authority of issues concerning the
19 board.

20 **(5)** From the appropriation under s. 20.545 (1) (b), the board shall award grants
21 for activities to improve the health status of economically disadvantaged minority
22 group members. A person may apply, in the manner specified by the board, for a
23 grant of up to \$50,000 to conduct these activities. A grant awarded under this
24 subsection may not exceed 85% of the cost of the activities. An applicant's required
25 contribution for a grant may consist of funding or an in-kind contribution.

