



201 East Washington Avenue, Room G200
P.O. Box 8916
Madison, WI 53708-8916
Telephone: 608-266-8684
Fax: 608-261-6972

Governor Scott Walker
Secretary Eloise Anderson

Secretary's Office

Date: February 19, 2014

To: Members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee

From: Sara Buschman, Assistant Deputy Secretary

Re: Department Position on SB 532/AB 674 – In Support

Senator Vukmir and Senate Health and Human Services Committee members,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 532/AB 674. My name is Sara Buschman and I am the Assistant Deputy Secretary at the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF). With me is Ron Hermes, the Director of the Bureau of Permanence and Out-of-Home Care at DCF.

Under current law, children can be placed in shelter care facilities (shelters) if there is a pending court hearing or if the child is under a court order for shelter placement. DCF licenses these facilities as a nonsecure place of temporary care and physical custody for children until they can transition into a longer-term living situation.

Currently, there are 14 shelters throughout the state, and they are available 24 hours a day to serve children and youth. Unfortunately, there are children and youth in Wisconsin that may need temporary living arrangements and are unable to currently access shelter services without court involvement. Children may need to be taken out of their current living situation for a range of reasons not connected to a pending court action.

SB 532/AB 674 allows DCF to expand the use of these facilities, so that a licensed shelter could provide services for a short time frame to a child not involved in a pending court action. The child would be admitted under a voluntary placement agreement for not more than 20 days.

The voluntary agreement must be signed by:

- A child's parent, guardian, or Indian custodian,
- The Department of Children and Families,
- The Department of Corrections,
- A county department of human services or social services, or
- A child welfare agency licensed to place children in shelter care facilities

If the child is 12 years of age or older, the child's consent to the agreement is required. The voluntary agreement may not be extended.

There are licensed facilities throughout Wisconsin that would benefit from the passage of this legislation. The Department also anticipates that some counties may look to open new facilities to address the unmet needs of children and youth in need of temporary shelter. SB 532/AB 674 provides another set of resources to aid children, youth, and their families in crisis as they transition into a longer-term living situation.

SB 532/AB 674 has a technical amendment which clarifies that private child placing agencies may make shelter care placements. It was adopted in the Assembly for the companion bill, and we hope that the committee will consider adopting it for SB 532/AB 674 as well.

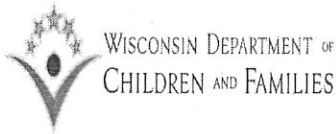
Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this legislation. We thank Senator Farrow and Representative Loudenbeck for authoring their bill and thank the Chair for holding a hearing. We are happy to answer any of your questions.



Shelter Care

By Facility Name

Facility Name and Address Phone Number / Contact Person	Licensee Name, Phone Number and Mailing Address	Type: Class:	Capacity: Sex: Age:
BROWN COUNTY SHELTER CARE 2980 ST. ANTHONY DR. Green Bay WI 54311 (920) 391-4625 Kerry Draxler County: Brown Trgt Grp(s): Alcohol and Drug Abuse (AODA) Children in Need of Protection (CHIPS) Delinquent/Corrections Developmental Disabilities Emotional/Behavioral Disorders Other	BROWN COUNTY <u>(920) 448-4015</u> Kerry Deaxler 305 E. WALNUT STREET Green Bay WI 54301	Type: Shelter Care Class: Large Licensors: Schiellack, Linda Profit/ Non: NonProfit	Capacity: 20 Sex: M/F Age: 10Y-17Y Facility ID: 8002559 Initial License: 07/22/1983
DANE COUNTY JUVENILE SHELTER HOME 2402 ATWOOD AVENUE Madison WI 53704 (608) 246-3889 John Hendrick County: Dane Trgt Grp(s): Children in Need of Protection (CHIPS) Delinquent/Corrections Emotional/Behavioral Disorders	DANE COUNTY JUVENILE SHELTER HOME <u>(608) 246-3889</u> John Hendrick 2402 ATWOOD AVENUE Madison WI 53704	Type: Shelter Care Class: Large Licensors: Nerge, Katrina Profit/ Non: NonProfit	Capacity: 16 Sex: M/F Age: 10Y-17Y Facility ID: 8011371 Initial License: 01/01/1972
KHDS SHELTER CARE 6012 8TH AVENUE Kenosha WI 53143 (262) 654-8210 Rosalind Hardy County: Kenosha Trgt Grp(s): Children in Need of Protection (CHIPS) Delinquent/Corrections Emotional/Behavioral Disorders	KENOSHA HUMAN DEV SERVICES INC <u>(262) 657-7188</u> Mark Johnson 5407 8TH AVE #2 Kenosha WI 53143	Type: Shelter Care Class: Small Licensors: Phillips, Cindy Profit/ Non: Profit	Capacity: 8 Sex: M/F Age: 12Y-17Y Facility ID: 8006248 Initial License: 03/15/1984
LA CAUSA CRISIS NURSERY 522 W. WALKER STREET Milwaukee WI 53204 (414) 647-5990 Karl Schoendorf County: Milwaukee Trgt Grp(s): Alcohol and Drug Abuse (AODA) Developmental Disabilities Emotional/Behavioral Disorders Other	LA CAUSA INC <u>(414) 902-1511</u> George Torres 136 W GREENFIELD AVE Milwaukee WI 53204	Type: Shelter Care Class: Large Licensors: Paules, Jeannette Profit/ Non: NonProfit	Capacity: 12 Sex: M/F Age: 0Y-12Y Facility ID: 8003986 Initial License: 01/29/1991
MARATHON COUNTY JUVENILE FACILITY 7025 PACKER DRIVE Wausau WI 54401 (715) 261-1730 Paul Mergendahl County: Marathon Trgt Grp(s): Alcohol and Drug Abuse (AODA) Children in Need of Protection (CHIPS) Delinquent/Corrections Emotional/Behavioral Disorders	MARATHON COUNTY GOVERNMENT <u>(715) 261-1767</u> Paul Mergendahl 500 FOREST ST Wausau WI 54403	Type: Shelter Care Class: Large Licensors: Guyette, Margaret Profit/ Non: NonProfit	Capacity: 20 Sex: M/F Age: 10Y-17Y Facility ID: 8005344 Initial License: 02/18/1998
MERCY HOUSE 3813A N 52ND STREET Milwaukee WI 53216 (414) 231-3142 Mary Woods County: Milwaukee Trgt Grp(s): Alcohol and Drug Abuse (AODA) Children in Need of Protection (CHIPS) Delinquent/Corrections Developmental Disabilities Emotional/Behavioral Disorders	COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES LLC <u>(414) 839-4755</u> Shanese McClendon 3813 N 52ND STREET Milwaukee WI 53216	Type: Shelter Care Class: Family Licensors: Phillips, Cindy Profit/ Non: Profit	Capacity: 4 Sex: M Age: 12Y-17Y Facility ID: 8037449 Initial License: 04/28/2011



Shelter Care

By Facility Name

Facility Name and Address Phone Number / Contact Person	Licensee Name, Phone Number and Mailing Address	Type: Class:	Capacity: Sex: Age: Facility ID: Initial License:
MILWAUKEE COUNTY SHELTER CARE FEMALE 9501 W. WATERTOWN PLANK ROAD Wauwatosa WI 53226 (414) 778-0600 Julie Borum County: Milwaukee Trgt Grp(s): Alcohol and Drug Abuse (AODA) Children in Need of Protection (CHIPS) Delinquent/Corrections Developmental Disabilities Emotional/Behavioral Disorders	NEW HORIZON CENTER INC (414) 962-4000 Tommy Thomas 4200 N HOLTON STREET STE 100 Milwaukee WI 532121064	Type: Shelter Care Class: Large Licensor: Paules, Jeannette Profit/ Non: NonProfit	Capacity: 20 Sex: F Age: 12Y-17Y Facility ID: 8037325 Initial License: 01/01/2011
OUTAGAMIE COUNTY SHELTER CARE 500 W. 5TH STREET Appleton WI 54911 (920) 832-5084 Gerald Verhagen County: Outagamie Trgt Grp(s): Children in Need of Protection (CHIPS) Delinquent/Corrections	OUTAGAMIE CTY DHS (920) 832-5084 Mark Mertens 500 W. 5TH STREET Appleton WI 54911	Type: Shelter Care Class: Large Licensor: Schiellack, Linda Profit/ Non: NonProfit	Capacity: 18 Sex: M/F Age: 10Y-17Y Facility ID: 8008843 Initial License: 04/04/1997
ROCK COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES CENTER 210 HIGHWAY 14 EAST Janesville WI 53545 (608) 757-5433 Amanda Galaviz County: Rock Trgt Grp(s): Alcohol and Drug Abuse (AODA) Children in Need of Protection (CHIPS) Delinquent/Corrections Developmental Disabilities Emotional/Behavioral Disorders Other	ROCK COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES CENTER (608) 757-5433 Edjron Pearson 210 HIGHWAY 14 EAST Janesville WI 53545	Type: Shelter Care Class: Large Licensor: Phillips, Cindy Profit/ Non: NonProfit	Capacity: 20 Sex: M/F Age: 8Y-17Y Facility ID: 8007685 Initial License: 11/15/1994
SHEBOYGAN CO. SHELTER CARE 1335 LOGAN AVENUE Sheboygan WI 53083 (920) 452-9939 Jennifer Wood County: Sheboygan Trgt Grp(s): Children in Need of Protection (CHIPS) Delinquent/Corrections Emotional/Behavioral Disorders	SHEBOYGAN CO SHELTER CARE INC (920) 452-9939 John Ehmann 1335 LOGAN AVE Sheboygan WI 53083	Type: Shelter Care Class: Small Licensor: Schiellack, Linda Profit/ Non: NonProfit	Capacity: 8 Sex: M/F Age: 10Y-17Y Facility ID: 1602514 Initial License: 06/01/1982
ST CHARLES BOYS SHELTER - E BLDG 9501 WATERTOWN PLANK ROAD Wauwatosa WI 53226 (414) 778-4251 Charles Collier County: Milwaukee Trgt Grp(s): Children in Need of Protection (CHIPS) Delinquent/Corrections	ST CHARLES YOUTH AND FAM SRVCS INC (414) 476-3710 Catherine Connolly 151 S 84TH ST Milwaukee WI 53214	Type: Shelter Care Class: Large Licensor: Phillips, Cindy Profit/ Non: NonProfit	Capacity: 44 Sex: M Age: 10Y-17Y Facility ID: 2000664 Initial License: 03/01/1998
THOMPSON SHELTER CARE HOME LLC 345 STANLEY CT Neenah WI 54956 (920) 729-2968 Al John County: Winnebago Trgt Grp(s): Alcohol and Drug Abuse (AODA) Children in Need of Protection (CHIPS) Delinquent/Corrections Emotional/Behavioral Disorders	THOMPSON SHELTER CARE HOME LLC (715) 526-9598 David Thompson W5624 STATE RD 22 Shawano WI 54166	Type: Shelter Care Class: Large Licensor: Schiellack, Linda Profit/ Non: Profit	Capacity: 12 Sex: M/F Age: 10Y-17Y Facility ID: 6205797 Initial License: 11/16/1979



Shelter Care

By Facility Name

Facility Name and Address Phone Number / Contact Person	Licensee Name, Phone Number and Mailing Address	Type:	Capacity:
WAUKESHA COUNTY JUVENILE CENTER 521 RIVERVIEW AVE Waukesha WI 53188 (262) 548-7731 Michael Sturdevant County: Waukesha Trgt Grp(s): Children in Need of Protection (CHIPS) Delinquent/Corrections	WAUKESHA COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES DE (262) 544-8926 Peter Slesar 521 RIVERVIEW AVENUE Waukesha WI 53188	Class: Large Licensors: Paules, Jeannette Profit/ Non: NonProfit	Sex: M/F Age: 10Y-17Y Facility ID: 8022330 Initial License: 01/31/1995
WESTERN REGIONAL ADOLESCENT CENTER 300 NORTH FOURTH ST. La Crosse WI 54602 (608) 785-6435 David Steinberg County: La Crosse Trgt Grp(s): Children in Need of Protection (CHIPS) Delinquent/Corrections Developmental Disabilities Emotional/Behavioral Disorders	LA CROSSE COUNTY (608) 785-5542 Tara Johnson 300 4TH STREET La Crosse WI 54602	Class: Small Licensors: Hartman, Tracy Profit/ Non: Profit	Sex: M/F Age: 10Y-17Y Facility ID: 8007998 Initial License: 05/01/2008

Note: A Type 2 residential care center may accept a Type 2 youth that has been designated by the court system or the county as a Type 2 youth.



Amy Loudenbeck

REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S 31ST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

**Testimony of Rep. Amy Loudenbeck
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
February 19, 2014**

Thank you to Madame Chair Vukmir and Committee members for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 532.

I ask for your support of Senate Bill 532, which authorizes the Department of Children and Families to make an exception for individual shelter care facilities so that a licensed shelter could provide services to a child not involved in a pending court action for up to 20 days. The placement must be voluntary with the agreement signed by the child's parent, guardian, or Indian custodian, the child (if age 12 and older) or an agency authorized to place children for care.

Sometimes situations arise when children may need to be taken out of their current living situation for a range of reasons not connected to a pending court action. For example, a parent may need to serve a short term jail sentence or drug treatment program and need a safe place for the children to stay. Or the child may be a runaway youth and in need of shelter while the county or private agency works with the family for the child to safely return home. This bill would allow for families to have the option of short term child placement in a shelter without the need for a court order, while still requiring oversight by the Department of Children and Families.

Shelters are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to serve children in need of a safe and secure environment. Shelters serve youth and families by providing healthy meals, a safe place to sleep, adult supervision and family support. Shelter care staff lead daily recreational and educational programs while teaching social and daily living skills. There are fourteen licensed shelters in the state of Wisconsin (see attached list).

Colleagues, I thank you for your time today and allowing me to share the details of this important bill. I encourage your support of this legislative proposal.