

1       **AN ACT** *to create* 49.815 (intro.), (1) and (2) of the statutes; **relating to:** an electronic  
 2           application and information system to determine eligibility and register for public  
 3           assistance programs.

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

**JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PREFATORY NOTE:** This draft was prepared for the Joint Legislative Council’s Special Committee on Infant Mortality.

The Department of Health Services (DHS) currently administers an electronic application and information system (known as the “ACCESS” system), which enables a person to determine his or her eligibility and register for multiple public assistance programs, including BadgerCare Plus, the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program, and FoodShare.

The draft directs DHS to pursue expansion of the ACCESS system to include information regarding all programs designed to assist low-income persons, including housing assistance, rental assistance, and temporary child care assistance.

The draft also requires DHS to pursue the development of a single statewide data management information system to facilitate the integration of health, public health, social, and economic assistance services provided to low-income persons in Wisconsin. This system would enable a person to register once for different public assistance programs and enable each program to have access to program recipients’ data so that it is not necessary to re-enter the same information multiple times, and would provide a single, automated care plan identifying a comprehensive array of service activities needed to address assessed risks for an individual. The plan would be based on the person’s response to a standardized set of questions assessing prenatal or child health care, nutrition, child safety, and other human service needs. The system would also provide a scheduling or referral system which matches the person’s service needs with available internal and external providers.

4       **SECTION 1.** 49.815 (intro.), (1) and (2) of the statutes are created to read:

1           **49.815** STATEWIDE DATA MANAGEMENT AND INFORMATION SYSTEM. The department shall  
2 pursue all of the following:

3           (1) Expansion of the department's electronic application and information system that  
4 enables a person to determine his or her eligibility for and to apply for or renew Medicaid  
5 services and other public assistance benefits, and to include in the system information  
6 regarding all programs designed to assist low-income persons, including housing assistance,  
7 rental assistance, and temporary child care assistance.

8           (2) Development and implementation of a statewide, electronic data management and  
9 information system for public assistance programs that does all of the following:

10           (a) Determines a person's eligibility for multiple public assistance programs by means  
11 of a single registration or application.

12           (b) Allows public assistance program administrators to have access to public assistance  
13 program recipients' data previously captured by other programs.

14           (c) Provides a single, automated care plan identifying a comprehensive array of service  
15 activities needed to address assessed risks for a person.

16           (d) Provides a scheduling or referral system which matches a person's service needs  
17 with available health care, public assistance, or economic assistance providers.

**NOTE:** Subsection (1) directs DHS to pursue the expansion of its electronic application and information system (known as the "ACCESS" system), which currently enables a person to determine his or her eligibility and register for multiple public assistance programs, including BadgerCare Plus, WIC, and FoodShare, and to receive information about other forms of assistance including housing assistance, rental assistance, and temporary child care assistance.

Subsection (2) requires DHS to pursue the development of a single statewide data management information system to facilitate the

integration of health, public health, social, and economic assistance services provided to low-income persons in Wisconsin.

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(END)