

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 50.36 (2m) of the statutes; **relating to:** hospital best practices for
 2 postpartum patients and newborns requiring the exercise of rule-making authority.

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.

This draft directs the Department of Health Services to write rules that require hospitals to model and support best practices for postpartum patients and newborns that include all of the following:

- Prohibiting discharge of a postpartum patient and newborn until the newborn has an infant car seat and the patient has scheduled a postpartum visit with her health care provider.
- Educating postpartum patients before discharge on newborn care, including safe sleeping arrangements, how to access breastfeeding information and support, and car seat safety.
- Requiring that the obstetric, pediatric, and family physician staff recommend breastfeeding for all newborns for whom breastfeeding is not medically contraindicated and provide parents with complete, up-to-date information to ensure that their feeding decision is fully informed.

3 **SECTION 1.** 50.36 (2m) of the statutes is created to read:

4 50.36 **(2m)** The department shall promulgate rules that require hospitals to ensure that
 5 best practices for postpartum patients and newborns are modeled and supported in the
 6 hospital. The rules shall do all of the following:

- 7 (a) Prohibit discharge of a postpartum patient and newborn until the newborn has an
 8 infant car seat and the patient has scheduled a postpartum visit with her health care provider.

