



PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

1 **AN ACT relating to:** study of the requirements for certain credentials for
2 providing substance use disorder treatment.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This is a preliminary draft. An analysis will be provided in a subsequent version of this draft.

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

3 **SECTION 1. Nonstatutory provisions.**

4 (1) **DEFINITION.** In this section, “department” means the department of safety
5 and professional services.

6 (2) **STUDY.** The department shall conduct a study of the requirements for
7 obtaining a credential as a substance abuse counselor, marriage and family
8 therapist, professional counselor, or a social worker. In conducting the study, the
9 department shall consult with the marriage and family therapy, professional

1 counseling, and social work examining board and with an organization with
2 knowledge and expertise in the requirements for obtaining credentials to provide
3 substance use disorder treatment in other jurisdictions. Not later than December
4 31, 2018, the department shall submit a report to the legislature under section
5 13.172 (2) of the statutes. The report shall include proposed changes to statutes and
6 administrative rules based on all of the following:

****NOTE: If the draft should require DSPS to study other questions, please let me
know.

7 (a) The department's comparison of current requirements in this state for
8 obtaining a credential as a substance abuse counselor, marriage and family
9 therapist, professional counselor, or social worker with the requirements for
10 obtaining similar credentials in other jurisdictions, and with current research on
11 recommended requirements and qualifications for persons providing treatment of
12 substance use disorders.

13 (b) The department's assessment of whether the requirements compared in
14 paragraph (a) are substantially equivalent, and of whether it is possible to expedite
15 the granting of reciprocal credentials to practitioners possessing credentials from
16 other jurisdictions.

17 (c) The department's assessment of whether education, training, and
18 experience obtained for satisfying the requirements for a credential as a marriage
19 and family therapist, professional counselor, or social worker should be counted
20 towards satisfying the current requirements for obtaining a certification as a
21 substance abuse counselor.

22 (d) The department's review of the addiction counseling competencies of the
23 substance abuse and mental health services administration of the federal

1 department of health and human services and of evidence-based practices published
2 by national organizations having a purpose involving the training or licensure of
3 substance use disorder treatment providers.

4 (END)