



State of Wisconsin
2021 - 2022 LEGISLATURE

LRB-3315/1
JPC:klm

2021 BILL

1 **AN ACT** *to renumber and amend* 250.15 (1); and *to create* 250.15 (1) (b) and
2 250.15 (2) (d) of the statutes; **relating to:** grants for free and charitable clinics
3 and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Health Services is required to award grants each fiscal year to several classes of community health centers. A community health center is a health care entity that provides primary health care, health education, and social services to low-income individuals. The 2019 biennial budget act, 2019 Wisconsin Act 9, required DHS to annually award \$500,000 in grants to free and charitable clinics from the same community health services appropriation. This bill continues the grant for free and charitable clinics and directs DHS to annually award \$2,500,000 in grants to free and charitable clinics. This bill defines “free and charitable clinics” as health care organizations that use a volunteer and staff model to provide health services to uninsured, underinsured, underserved, economically and socially disadvantaged, and vulnerable populations and that meet criteria specified in the bill.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

BILL**SECTION 1**

1 **SECTION 1.** 250.15 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 250.15 (1) (intro.) and
2 amended to read:

3 250.15 (1) ~~DEFINITION~~ DEFINITIONS. (intro.) In this section, “community:

4 (a) “Community health center” means a health care entity that provides
5 primary health care, health education and social services to low-income individuals.

6 **SECTION 2.** 250.15 (1) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

7 250.15 (1) (b) “Free and charitable clinics” means health care organizations
8 that use a volunteer and staff model to provide health services to uninsured,
9 underinsured, underserved, economically and socially disadvantaged, and
10 vulnerable populations and that meet all of the following criteria:

11 1. The organizations are nonprofit and tax exempt or are a part of a larger
12 nonprofit, tax-exempt organization.

13 2. The organizations are located in this state or serve residents in this state.

14 3. The organizations restrict eligibility to receive services to individuals who
15 are uninsured, underinsured, or have limited or no access to primary, specialty, or
16 prescription care.

17 4. The organizations provide one or more of the following services:

18 a. Medical care.

19 b. Mental health care.

20 c. Dental care.

21 d. Prescription medications.

22 5. The organizations use volunteer health care professionals, nonclinical
23 volunteers, and partnerships with other health care providers to provide the services
24 under subd. 4.

