State of Wisconsin

Date of enactment:
2025 Senate Bill 259 Date of publication*:

2025 WISCONSIN ACT

AN ACT ***to amend*** 48.981 (7) (a) (intro.); ***to create*** 48.981 (3) (c) 2r. of the statutes; **relating to:** the notice of an investigation of child abuse or neglect or unborn child abuse provided to appropriate authorities of the U.S. Department of Defense.

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

SECTION 1. 48.981 (3) (c) 2r. of the statutes is created to read:

48.981 **(3)** (c) 2r. If an agency initiates an investigation under subd. 1. a. pertaining to a child or unborn child and the agency knows or has reason to know that a parent of the child or unborn child is a member of the U.S. armed forces, a reserve component of the U.S. armed forces, or the Wisconsin national guard, the agency shall provide notice to the appropriate authorities of the U.S. department of defense as soon as practicable after initiating the investigation. The notice shall consist only of the name and address of the child or expectant mother and the fact that an investigation has been initiated about that child or unborn child.

SECTION 2. 48.981 (7) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

48.981 **(7)** (a) (intro.) All reports made under this section, notices provided under sub. (3) (bm) <u>and (c) 2r.,</u> and records maintained by an agency and other persons, officials<u>,</u> and institutions shall be confidential. Reports and records may be disclosed only to the following persons:

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* Section 991.11, WISCONSIN STATUTES: Effective date of acts. "Every act and every portion of an act enacted by the legislature over the governor's partial veto which does not expressly prescribe the time when it takes effect shall take effect on the day after its date of publication."