

WISCONSIN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

CAPITOL UPDATE

April 9, 2010

Contents Include:

1. Legislature's Final Floor Period Begins Next Week
2. Senate to Vote on Payday Lending Bill
3. Vote Likely on Mental Health and Substance Abuse Parity
4. New Bills of Interest
5. Web Sites of Interest

Legislature's Final Floor Period Begins Next Week

The Legislature's final floor session will begin next week on Tuesday, April 13, and run until Thursday, April 22. Any bill that is not passed within this period dies. Although new bills continue to be introduced, few if any of these are expected to pass this late in the session.

Senate to Vote on Payday Lending Bill

This week, the Senate Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs, Biotechnology, and Financial Institutions adopted a [substitute amendment](#) to [Senate Bill 530](#). As amended, SB 530 would limit payday loans to 35 percent of monthly income or \$1,500, whichever is less, and would limit the locations in which payday lenders can operate. It would also establish a statewide database and give the Department of Financial Institutions regulatory authority. The bill does not include a rate cap, although it is expected that cap will be offered on the Senate floor as an amendment. The bill now goes to the Senate floor for a vote on Tuesday, April 13.

Vote Likely on Mental Illness and Substance Abuse Parity

During this final floor period, the Assembly is likely to vote on [Assembly Bill 512](#), which enhances health insurance coverage requirements in Wisconsin for mental illness and substance abuse. The bill ensures that those who work for businesses with 50 or fewer employees who suffer from these conditions receive the same care and treatment as those who have physical health issues. Both AB 512 and a version of the bill passed earlier this year by the Senate, [Senate Bill 362](#), were amended with several changes, including an exemption for employers with under 10 employees. The WCC testified in support of this legislation.

New Bills of Interest

[AB-915](#). **Choice Schools** (Colon) Authorizes DPI to withhold payments to private schools participating in the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program if the school is in arrears or default in contractual payments. To Education.

[AB-921](#). **Assessments** (Davis) Changes affecting pupil assessments. To Education Reform.

AB-922. Punishment (Krusick) Prohibits use of corporal punishment in private schools participating in the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program. To Education Reform.

Web Sites of Interest

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/waml>

- Who are my legislators

[Directory of Senate Members](#)

[Directory of Assembly Members](#)

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/leginfo.html>

- 2009-10 Session Schedule
- Weekly Schedule of Committee Activities
- Senate and Assembly Daily Floor Calendar

Capitol Update is a periodic e-mail on legislative issues from the Wisconsin Catholic Conference.

Wisconsin Catholic Conference
131 W. Wilson St., Suite 1105
Madison, WI 53703
608/257-0004
www.wisconsinatholic.org
office@wisconsinatholic.org