



Managed Care Organizations Urge the Joint Finance Committee to Remove all Changes to Long-term Care from the State Budget

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Wisconsin Family Care Association (WFCA) calls on the Joint Finance Committee to remove all changes to Family Care, IRIS and Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) from the state budget bill.

No new plan should be created until stakeholders have weighed in on the proposed changes. Any long-term care reform must use our current, successful system as a starting point.

The recently released analysis by the non-partisan Legislative Fiscal Bureau (LFB) provides no proof that the drastic changes to Wisconsin's long-term care system are needed. However, LFB does make it clear that the proposed budget would completely eliminate our current long-term care system and Wisconsin-based Managed Care Organizations (MCOS): "If the proposed changes would be adopted, the current long-term care system, including the regional MCOs, would be eliminated."

Wisconsin-based MCOs currently provide Family Care to approximately 40,000 individuals with disabilities and frail elders, and directly employ over 3,000 Wisconsin workers. The elimination of our current MCOs will result in significant disruption to the lives of these 40,000 individuals who rely on Family Care to remain independent and the loss of thousands of Wisconsin jobs.

Analysis by the LFB found that our current long-term care system has already saved significant taxpayer dollars and that it is unclear if what is being proposed is even capable of producing additional savings. Our Wisconsin-based MCOs currently limit profits to less than 2% and have administrative costs of roughly 4.6%. This ensures that the vast majority of funding received by our Wisconsin-based MCOs is used to provide long-term care services to our members.

We ask the Joint Finance Committee to include long-term care stakeholders in any future discussions regarding long-term care reform. Stakeholders must have a seat at the table before a new plan is developed.

Wisconsin Family Care Association

Care Wisconsin ■ Community Care Connections of Wisconsin ■ Community Care
ContinuUs ■ Independent Care Health Plan ■ Lakeland Care District
Milwaukee County Department of Family Care ■ Western Wisconsin Cares



WFCFA calls on the Joint Finance Committee to remove all changes to Family Care, IRIS and Aging and Disability Resource Centers from the state budget. **This means adopting Alternative 5 in LFB Paper #356; Alternatives A4, B4 and C3 in LFB Paper #357 and Alternative 3 in LFB Paper #358 (but approve the additional 3.0 positions for the Board on Aging and Long-term Care).**

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