

“Initial” WAHSA Legislative Agenda for 2011-13

- 1. Nursing Home Bed Tax “Skim”:** Provide nursing facilities with a 3.25% MA rate increase in 2011-12 by eliminating the nursing home bed tax “skim” and returning all federal revenues generated by the tax to nursing homes in the form of a rate increase.
- 2. Certified Expenditure Program (CPE) Funding Split:** Enhance reimbursement for county and municipally-operated nursing homes by requiring that “at least \$39.1 million in each fiscal year” of the federal MA funds generated by county/municipal nursing home deficits under the Certified Expenditure Program (CPE) be returned to the facilities which generated those additional federal funds and that future federal funds generated under the CPE be shared equally between the State and county/municipal nursing homes.
- 3. Dual Enforcement/Self-Reporting:** Amend Chapter 50, Wis. Stats., by: (1) Prohibiting the DQA from issuing a notice of violation of a state requirement to a Medicaid- or Medicare-certified nursing home if the DQA has cited the nursing home for a violation of a federal requirement that is based on the same facts (2003 Assembly Bill 842); and (2) Permitting the DHS Division of Quality Assurance (DQA) to not cite a nursing facility for a self-reported violation if the facility has corrected the violation or has made every reasonable effort to prevent and correct the violation but the violation has occurred and remains uncorrected due to circumstances beyond the nursing home’s control.

The Wisconsin Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (WAHSA) is a statewide membership association of 200 not-for-profit long-term care organizations. WAHSA members own, operate and/or sponsor 189 not-for-profit nursing homes, of which 38 are county-owned and operated, 9 facilities for the developmentally disabled (FDD), 76 community-based residential facilities (CBRF), 60 residential care apartment complexes (RCAC), and 113 senior apartment complexes, as well as community service programs ranging from home care, hospice, Alzheimer’s support and child and adult day care to Meals on Wheels. Our members employ over 38,000 dedicated staff that provides care and services to over 48,000 individuals. For more information, please contact the WAHSA staff at (608) 255-7060: John Sauer, Executive Director (jsauer@wahsa.org); Brian Schoeneck, Director of Financial Services (bschoeneck@wahsa.org) and Tom Ramsey, Director of Government Relations (tramsey@wahsa.org).

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