











February 22, 2018

Senator Roger Roth State Capitol, Room 220 South *Electronically Delivered* 

Dear Senator Roth,

As constituents and employers in the 19<sup>th</sup> Senate District, we write today to offer our support for Assembly Bill 630 and to request that the bill receive a public hearing and be passed by the State Senate.

AB-630 strikes an appropriate balance of offering additional training for caring for residents suffering from Alzheimer's and Dementia, while also helping address Wisconsin's ongoing long-term care workforce crisis.

Wisconsin's long-term care providers face a significant workforce crisis that is further exacerbated by the fact that Wisconsin CNA candidates have an additional barrier to employment when compared to neighboring states. Wisconsin CNAs are required to have 45 more hours of training than those in Michigan, Minnesota, and Iowa. Along with creating a new 'dementia specialist' training opportunity, AB-630 would align Wisconsin's CNA hourly training requirements with the federal standard, already adopted by these neighboring states. This bill will help eliminate a current hurdle to employment for those interested in the CNA profession.

In short, long-term care providers in the 19<sup>th</sup> Senate District and across the state are in desperate need of passage of AB-630. Please do everything you can to ensure that the bill moves through the senate and onto final passage.

As always, we appreciate your commitment to long-term care providers, our staff, and the residents we serve every day. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

**RYAN LOCY** ManorCare Health Services Appleton, WI **CHRIS VAN ASTEN** Rennes Health Center Appleton, WI **CINDY GRINDHEIM** Peabody Manor Appleton, WI

MICHAEL SCHANKE

Oakridge Gardens Rehab & Memory Center Menasha, WI MORGAN HINKLEY Brewster Village Appleton, WI MIKE TANBENHEIM Atrium Health Appleton, WI