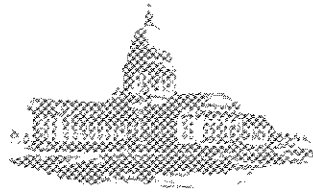


Chair:
Workforce Development
Vice Chair:
State Affairs



Member:
Colleges and Universities
Health
Natural Resources

JUDY KRAWCZYK

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 88TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

June 2, 2005

Dean Kaufert, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Finance
Room 308 East, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Dean,

I am contacting you as an advocate for those who have communicated with me recently because of their concern about the Medicaid funding in the state budget. I agree with their concerns and am writing you to let you know that I believe it is time to address the reimbursement shortfall and to rectify what has become known as the "hidden health care tax" paid by those with private insurance.

The Wisconsin Hospital Association's (WHA) plan would address three areas: creation of a new Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) program to provide increased payments to hospitals statewide that are struggling with large numbers of Medicaid patients; increase statewide payments for outpatient care; and partially restore the cuts to teaching hospitals made by the Governor in 2003 by increasing Graduate Medical Education (GME) payments.\

The \$25 million in General Purpose Revenue (GPR) allocated by the plan annually is estimated to capture an additional \$34 million in new federal dollars. This would mean a total sum of all funds for the medical facilities in the Green Bay area of approximately \$2.285 million dollars.

As you deliberate this biennial budget, the Medicaid program, and the needs of Wisconsinites, I hope that you will understand the necessity to address this problem now rather than later.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judy".

Judy Krawczyk
State Representative

JK/dc

cc: Rep. Kitty Rhoades

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