



ADVOCATE. ADVANCE. LEAD.

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May 12, 2025

The Honorable Gwen Moore
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mark Pocan
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Glenn Grothman
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bryan Steil
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Tiffany
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Scott Fitzgerald
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Derrick Van Orden
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tony Wied
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Members of Wisconsin's Congressional Delegation,

We are writing today with urgent concerns about the way Wisconsin is being treated in the recently released budget reconciliation proposal from the House Energy & Commerce Committee.

At Wisconsin's expense, the proposal would unfairly allow other states to take full advantage of state directed payment programs for hospitals **while freezing Wisconsin's program in-place at 2007 levels**. This, while Wisconsin has some of the highest levels of rural labor and delivery closures in the country along with the closure of two hospitals in the Chippewa Valley.

Wisconsin has taken a very conservative approach to its hospital assessment, only generating roughly 5.5% of its federal Medicaid funding through provider assessments. This ranks Wisconsin among the lowest states in the country while some states fund 35% or more of their federal Medicaid funding through provider assessments. **Wisconsin is now being punished for its conservative Medicaid approach.**

While we understand Congress' goal of reducing federal expenditures, policies should impact states fairly. Wisconsin has a long history of being disadvantaged by actions of Congress, including, but not limited to, disincentivizing Wisconsin's approach to Medicaid coverage only for those living poverty.

The Energy & Commerce proposal on provider assessments would lock Wisconsin out of a tool to increase Medicaid provider rates through state directed payment programs, while continuing to send Wisconsin's fair share of Medicaid resources to other states (see attached).

We would ask you to reject this unfair approach to provider assessments and create a uniform standard that allows Wisconsin to utilize state directed payment programs at the same level as other states. Otherwise, Wisconsin taxpayers will be, yet again, further subsidizing Medicaid programs in other states.

Please contact Energy and Commerce Chair Rep. Guthrie and Ranking Member Pallone ask this harmful proposal be removed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric Borgerding". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end.

Eric Borgerding
President & CEO

CC:

U.S. Senator Ron Johnson
U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin