

RESOLUTION NO.: 129—2018-19

TO THE HONORABLE, THE OUTAGAMIE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

MAJORITY

1 According to a report produced by a coalition of provider associations including
2 the Wisconsin Health Care Association / Wisconsin Center for Assisted Living,
3 LeadingAge Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Assisted Living Association, and the
4 Residential Services Association of Wisconsin, Wisconsin nursing homes and
5 assisted living providers are facing a workforce shortage crisis. Local
6 government budgets continue to be tight and labor markets are becoming
7 increasingly competitive. Talent is at a premium, and government is challenged
8 to offer competitive wages compared to other unskilled and non-healthcare-
9 related organizations.

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11 An in-depth statewide member survey shows that 1 in 5 direct caregiver positions
12 in Wisconsin's nursing homes and assisted living facilities are currently vacant.
13 Additionally, the survey found there are as many as 16,900 job openings in long-
14 term care (LTC) facilities across the state.

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16 The inability of LTC providers to offer competitive wages is due in large part to
17 their heavy reliance on Medicaid and Medicaid-waiver funding. A recent state-
18 by-state analysis of the nation's Medicaid nursing home reimbursement systems
19 concluded that Wisconsin has the worst daily rate payment in the country, with an
20 average Wisconsin facility losing \$63.04 per day for each of the approximately
21 16,490 Medicaid recipients residing in a state nursing home.

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23 The associations named in this resolution have developed workforce
24 recommendations that can address the labor shortage. Among these
25 recommendations is the specific request to increase the Medicaid reimbursement
26 rate. This resolution requests that the Legislature work with these associations in
27 the 2019-21 Wisconsin budget to address this workforce crisis.

28
29 NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned members of the Health and Human Services
30 Committee recommend adoption of the following resolution.

31 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Outagamie County Board of Supervisors does hereby
32 respectfully request that the Legislature work with the associations listed above to address the
33 workforce crisis in the 2019-21 Wisconsin state budget as there are serious consequences that
34 will result if the long-term workforce crisis is not addressed, and

1 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED. that the Outagamie County Clerk be directed to forward
 2 a copy of this resolution to Governor Scott Walker, the Wisconsin Department of Administration
 3 Secretary, the Wisconsin Counties Association, the Outagamie County Brewster Village
 4 Administrator, and the Outagamie County Lobbyist for distribution to the Legislature.

5 Dated this 11th day of December, 2018.

6 Respectfully Submitted,

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 8 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
 9 COMMITTEE

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 11
 12 Dan Gabrielson
 13 Dan Gabrielson

14 Justin Krueger
 15 Justin Krueger

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 18 Christine Lamers
 19 Christine Lamers

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 22 Cathy Thompson
 23 Cathy Thompson

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 26 Kelly Schroeder
 27 Kelly Schroeder

28 Duly and officially adopted by the County Board on: December 11, 2018

29 Signed: [Signature]
 30 Board Chairperson

31 Signed: [Signature]
 32 County Clerk

33 Approved: 12 13 18

34 Vetoed: _____

35
 36 Signed: [Signature]
 37 County Executive