

Resolution 02-09 2009

Supplement Payment/Certified Public Expenditure Program for County Nursing Homes.

WHEREAS, The Supplemental Payment Program, formerly known as the intergovernmental transfer program, generates federal matching funds based on actual operating losses incurred by governmental nursing homes; and

WHEREAS, amount of revenue that may be generated is capped by the federal government (Medicare Upper Limit); and

WHEREAS, all revenue generated from county nursing home losses is deposited in the state of Wisconsin's Medical Assistance Trust Fund; and

WHEREAS, the 2007-09 state biennial budget anticipated Medicaid deficits for county and municipal nursing homes of \$140,040,600 in FY08 and \$136,855,800 in FY 09; and

WHEREAS, payment to counties from the federal match paid on county losses are capped at \$37.1 million each year, and the state anticipated utilizing \$40,000,000 in FY 08 and \$37,000,000 in FY 09 in federal matching funds for its Medicaid programs;

WHEREAS, under current state law, total supplemental payments to county and municipal homes may not exceed \$37.1 million per year; and

WHEREAS, counties have never received less than \$37.1 million in payments annually; and

WHEREAS, county nursing homes generate significant losses as many county homes serve individuals with high acuity levels and intense behavioral needs; and

WHEREAS, the Medical Assistance rates paid to county nursing homes is insufficient to cover the cost of care for patients with significant care needs; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the number of county nursing homes has declined; and

WHEREAS, many counties can no longer afford to allocate property tax dollars to the operation of a county home, yet county homes provide a valuable public service; and

WHEREAS, if more counties sell or close their county nursing homes, county nursing home losses decrease, generating fewer dollars under the certified public expenditure program for county and state use; and

WHEREAS, as the \$37.1 million referenced in statute represents a cap on payments to counties, the state has the ability to provide payments to county and municipal homes in an amount less than \$37.1 million.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Polk County Board of Supervisors supports a legislative change requiring the state of Wisconsin to pay county and municipal nursing homes at least \$37.1 million annually under the supplemental payment program, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Wisconsin Counties Association and the Wisconsin Association of County Homes work in cooperation with the Department of Health Services to develop a plan to return all revenue generated from county nursing home losses to counties over a five-year period.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to DHS Secretary Karen Timberlake, DOA Secretary Michael Morgan, Governor James Doyle, and all area legislators and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

Funding Source: N/A

Funding Amount: N/A

Approved as to form: Jeffrey B. Fuge
Jeffrey B. Fuge, Corporation Counsel

Date submitted to County Board: 1-20-09

County Board Action: Adopted

Submitted By: Eugene A. Solomon

Robert Ducholny

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
) SS
COUNTY OF POLK)

I, Carole T. Wondra, County Clerk for Polk County, do hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 02-09 that was adopted by the Polk County Board of Supervisors on Jan. 20, 2009.



Carole T. Wondra
Polk County Clerk