

➤ Hearing Records ... HR

**** 07hr_sb0457_SC-PHSILTCP_pt01**

WISCONSIN STATE
LEGISLATURE ...
PUBLIC HEARING
COMMITTEE RECORDS

2007-08

(session year)

Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on
Public Health, Senior
Issues, Long Term
Care and Privacy

(SC-PHSILTCP)

(FORM UPDATED: 07/02/2010)

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

➤ Committee Reports ... CR

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➤ Executive Sessions ... ES

**

➤ Public Hearings ... PH

**

➤ Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

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**INFORMATION COLLECTED BY
COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST
PROPOSAL ...**

➤ Appointments ... Appt

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Name:

➤ Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

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➤ Hearing Records ... HR (bills and resolutions)

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➤ Miscellaneous ... Misc

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Vote Record

Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy

Date: 2/26/08

Moved by: Schultz Seconded by: Coggs

AB _____ SB 457 Clearinghouse Rule _____
 AJR _____ SJR _____ Appointment _____
 AR _____ SR _____ Other _____

A/S Amdt _____
 A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Amdt _____
 A/S Sub Amdt _____
 A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Sub Amdt _____
 A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Sub Amdt _____

Be recommended for: AS Amended

Passage Adoption Confirmation Concurrence Indefinite Postponement
 Introduction Rejection Tabling Nonconcurrence

<u>Committee Member</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Not Voting</u>
Senator Tim Carpenter, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Spencer Coggs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Pat Kreitlow	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Dale Schultz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Robert Cowles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals:	<u>5</u>	_____	_____	_____

Motion Carried Motion Failed

Vote Record

Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy

Date: 2/26/08

Moved by: Schultz Seconded by: Coggs

AB _____ SB 457 Clearinghouse Rule _____
 AJR _____ SJR _____ Appointment _____
 AR _____ SR _____ Other _____

A/S Amdt | LRB 50263

A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Amdt _____

A/S Sub Amdt _____

A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Sub Amdt _____

A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Sub Amdt _____

- Be recommended for:
- Passage
 - Adoption
 - Confirmation
 - Concurrence
 - Indefinite Postponement
 - Introduction
 - Rejection
 - Tabling
 - Nonconcurrency

Committee Member	Aye	No	Absent	Not Voting
Senator Tim Carpenter, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Spencer Coggs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Pat Kreitlow	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Dale Schultz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Robert Cowles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals:	(5)	0	0	0





WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Terry C. Anderson, Director
Laura D. Rose, Deputy Director

TO: SENATOR TIM CARPENTER, CHAIR, SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH,
SENIOR ISSUES, LONG-TERM CARE AND PRIVACY

FROM: Jessica L. Karls, Staff Attorney

RE: 2007 Senate Bill 457, Relating to Coverage of Long-Term Care Districts Under the
Wisconsin Retirement System

DATE: February 19, 2008

This memorandum describes 2007 Senate Bill 457 and Senate Substitute Amendment 1 to the bill.

Current law provides that any employer, including a long-term care district, may become a participating employer under the Wisconsin Retirement System if the governing body of the employer adopts a resolution to elect to become a participating employer. If the Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF) receives the official notice of election on or before November 15, the effective date of the employer's participation is the ensuing January 1. If ETF receives the official notice of election after November 15, the effective date of the employer's participation is the January 1 after the ensuing January 1. [s. 40.21 (1), Stats.]

2007 Senate Bill 457 provides that if the governing body of a long-term care district adopts a resolution to elect to become a participating employer under the Wisconsin Retirement System before **May 15 of any year** and ETF receives the official notice of election on or before May 15, the effective date of the participation of the long-term care district is the **ensuing July 1**.

Senate Substitute Amendment 1 provides that if the governing body of a long-term care district adopts a resolution to elect to become a participating employer under the Wisconsin Retirement System before **May 15, 2008**, and ETF receives the official notice of election on or before May 15, 2008, the effective date of the participation of the long-term care district is **July 1, 2008**.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly at the Legislative Council staff offices.

JK:jal



West Central Consortium
For Long-Term Support and Health Care Reform

1407 Saint Andrew St. La Crosse, WI 54603

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SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, SENIOR ISSUES,
LONG TERM CARE and PRIVACY

Testimony on Senate Bill 457
by WCC Project Coordinator Melissa Gilbert
February 20, 2008

The West Central Consortium for Long-Term Support and Health Care Reform (WCC) formed two years ago in response to a request by the state Department of Health and Family Services for local partners to plan for the expansion and regionalization of the Family Care program. Since then, representatives from our partner counties – Buffalo, Clark, Jackson, La Crosse, Monroe, Pepin, Trempealeau and Vernon counties – as well as local long-term care consumers, providers and others have poured thousands of hours into exploring options for providing managed long-term care to Medicaid-eligible seniors and adults with physical or developmental disabilities.

Our group originally consisted of six counties but grew to eight (and attracted interest from three others) due in large part to a common vision for maintaining public oversight of publicly-funded long-term care services. This governance model provides reassurance to consumers, county board members and county staff alike who will be impacted by changes to the long-term care service delivery system. Consequently, the WCC formed the state's first long-term care district (a new public entity created by but operated independently of participating counties) in December to provide the Family Care benefit to eligible residents through operation of a Managed Care Organization (MCO).

The success of any organization hinges on the ability to attract and retain quality employees. In an MCO, this necessitates a ready pool of social workers and registered nurses to manage the care of individuals who will enroll in Family Care. The WCC District will rely heavily on the ability to attract experienced case managers from the existing La Crosse County Care Management Organization and other county-administered long-term support programs that the regional entity will replace. The ability to draw the most experienced staff will depend largely on a guarantee of immediate Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) eligibility upon employment.

As a protection for county staff who transfer to a long-term care district, state law actually requires the district to adopt a resolution to participate in the WRS; however, the statutes also restrict entry into the program. Specifically, the governing board of a public entity must pass a resolution by November 15 in order to start participation the following year. Since the state budget, which included authorization for Family Care expansion and long-term care district creation, was not passed and signed into law until late October, passage of the WCC District's enabling resolution by each of the partner counties and subsequent appointment of a governing board could not take place in time to enable the Consortium to meet this deadline for 2008.

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Phone: 608-785-5570 Fax: 608-785-6315*

(more)

SB 457

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The WCC District plans to become a direct employer of staff by October and hire close to 200 workers by the end of the year. In order to provide sufficient time to recruit additional staff as needed and plan for worker training, the District intends to initiate the hiring process several months prior to the start of enrollment in each county. WRS inclusion will be an especially important consideration for staff whose seniority would allow them to “bump” back into other county jobs – a concern in each of the participating counties.

The potential for mass bumping would create significant problems both for the MCO and for the counties since the MCO would need to invest more time and money into training less experienced workers and counties would need to invest more time and money into re-training workers for jobs previously held by staff with less seniority but more experience in performing those particular functions. Additionally, such a situation would prove disruptive to consumers, many of whom hope to maintain a continuous relationship with their current care managers.

Senate Bill 457 would ease these concerns by providing a second window for WRS participation to long-term care districts. The substitute amendment would limit this opportunity to 2008, thus mitigating the impact on the Department of Employee Trust Funds. Without this legislation, the Consortium will need to explore two undesirable options – negotiate labor contracts and risk-sharing agreements with multiple counties or draw down our resources and frustrate the patience of our county boards and consumers awaiting services through delayed enrollment.

The West Central Consortium understands and supports the move toward multi-county service provision as a way to maximize state and local resources. At the same time, prolonged uncertainty over the timing and conditions of MCO implementation place a significant strain on numerous entities, including the county staff whom we hope to employ. Consequently, the WCC thanks Sen. Vinehout for introducing SB 457 and urges prompt passage in committee and on the Senate floor.