

➤ Hearing Records ... HR

**** 07hr_sjr0057_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

**

➤ Executive Sessions ... ES

**

➤ Public Hearings ... PH

**

➤ Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

**

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

➤ Appointments ... Appt

**

Name:

➤ Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

**

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

**

➤ Miscellaneous ... Misc

**

()

Vote Record

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

Date: 9/19/07

Moved by: Cowles

Seconded by: Coggs

AB _____ SB _____ Clearinghouse Rule _____
 AJR _____ SJR 57 Appointment _____
 AR _____ SR _____ Other _____

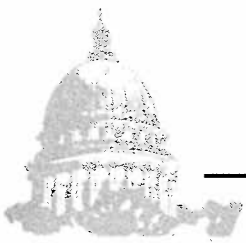
A/S Amdt _____
 A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Amdt _____
 A/S Sub Amdt _____
 A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Sub Amdt _____
 A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Sub Amdt _____

Be recommended for:
 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





WISCONSIN STATE SENATE

TIM CARPENTER

SENATOR – 3RD DISTRICT

State Capitol • PO Box 7882 • Madison, WI 53707-7882 • Phone: (608) 266-8535

8/15/07

Testimony from Sen. Tim Carpenter submitted to the Committee on Public Health,
Senior Issues, Long Term Care, and Privacy in support of SJR 57

What is SeniorCare?

SeniorCare is a program to help over 100,000 low income Wisconsin seniors get the life-saving prescription drugs that they need. SeniorCare is funded significantly by a Medicare waiver from the federal government.

The problem: HHS tried to kill SeniorCare in favor of Medicare Part D.

This past year, the head of the Department of Health and Human Services told WI that the SeniorCare waiver would not be renewed, but instead WI seniors would be moved to the federal government's Medicare Part D prescription drug program.

Why should we favor SeniorCare instead of Medicare Part D?

To Wisconsin seniors, keeping SeniorCare instead of mandating a switch to Medicare Part D made good common sense. A study found that 94 percent of SeniorCare recipients are better served under SeniorCare than they would be under Medicare Part D.

SeniorCare costs the government millions of dollars less than Part D, According to the Wisconsin's Health and Family Services Department, the federal government spends \$557 less per senior citizen with SeniorCare than it does for Medicare Part D.

SeniorCare's one page application is also easier than trying to navigate through the over 50 competing Part D plans in Wisconsin.

Is SeniorCare's future uncertain?

SeniorCare will continue through 2009, and to continue the waiver beyond that date will once again require approval of HHS or an enactment of a federal law. As SeniorCare cuts through bureaucracy, saves tax dollars, does a better job, and is easier to use, provides better coverage for less money, we don't have to worry about the it continuing, right? Wrong.

When it appeared that the HHS was going to cancel the SeniorCare waiver, some folks stated that WI supporters of SeniorCare should just “get over it” and accept the cancellation. That the folks who said this were *WI state legislators* is tragic.

Why an advisory referendum? First, because sometimes the folks who make important decisions need to be reminded of the obvious. And the timing of the referendum, at the next November general election has a purpose also. Although it may seem that presidential elections are far away, there will come a time in the next year when candidates will come to WI and seek our support. Let’s hear from them on SeniorCare. We do not have the power to tell a presidential candidate what to say in a speech, but we can influence them by placing this advisory referendum on the ballot upon which they hope to appear.