Date: $3 99$ Meetir Location: $3 99$ South	ng Type:	Public!	lary	
Committee Member Sen. Judy Robson, Chair Sen. Gwendolynne Moore Sen. Robert Wirch Sen. Carol Roessler Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig		Present	Absent	Excused
	Totals:		·	·

Vote Record

Date: 3999 Bill Number:	Executive Session		Public Hearing
Moved by: Motion:	•		
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Committee Member Sen. Judy Robson, Chair	<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>	Absent
Sen. Gwendolynne Moore			
Sen. Robert Wirch			
Sen. Carol Roessler			
Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig			
Totals:			
Motion Co	arried Motion	Failed	

Vote Record

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Date: 3/4/99	Execut	ive Session	Public Hearing
Bill Number:			
Moved by: Robson	Secc	nded by: Max	~e
Motion: Waive the Senate Hu	man bervices t	Aging Committee	's Remarning
Review towar Period under W:	scensin State	e Statule \$22	7.19
			
Committee Member	Aye	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Sen. Judy Robson, Chair			
Sen. Gwendolynne Moore			
Sen. Robert Wirch			
Sen. Carol Roessler			
Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig	V		
Totals:			
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Motion C	arriad	Motion Failed	·
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Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging

Date: 3/4/99 Meeting	д Туре:	Public A	learing	
Committee Member		<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Excused</u>
Sen. Judy Robson, Chair		\Box		
Sen. Gwendolynne Moore		$ \overline{\mathbf{X}} $		
Sen. Robert Wirch				
Sen. Carol Roessler		\(\)		
Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig		$ \uparrow \rangle$		
·	otals:	4		

Date: 4/99 Meeting Type: Location: 4/1 South	PH		
Committee Member	Present	Absent	Excused
Sen. Judy Robson, Chair	abla		
Sen. Gwendolynne Moore	$\overline{\mathbf{x}}$		
Sen. Robert Wirch	$\dot{\Box}$		
Sen. Carol Roessler			
Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig		4	\boxtimes
Totals:			

Date: 4 1 99 Meeting Type:	F6		
Committee Member	Present	Absent	Excused
Sen. Judy Robson, Chair			
Sen. Gwendolynne Moore			
Sen. Robert Wirch			
Sen. Carol Roessler			
Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig			
Totals:			

Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging

Date: $4 20 99$ Meeting Type: Location: $3305W$	ES		
Committee Member Sen. Judy Robson, Chair Sen. Gwendolynne Moore Sen. Robert Wirch Sen. Carol Roessler Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig	Present	Absent	Excused
Totals:	3		

Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging

Date: <u>4/20/99</u> Meeting - Location: <u>330 S ω</u>	Type: BBPal	liz Heeron	j
Committee Member	Present	Absent	Excused
Sen. Judy Robson, Chair			
Sen. Gwendolynne Moore			\triangleright
Sen. Robert Wirch	\square		
Sen. Carol Roessler			
Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig		\searrow	
To	otals: 3	1	/

Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging

Date:	Meeting Type:	Exacut	ne Sessit	ar
Location:				
Committee Member		Present	Absent	Excused
Sen. Judy Robson, Cha	air			
Sen. Gwendolynne Mo			\swarrow	
Sen. Robert Wirch		\square		
Sen. Carol Roessler				
Sen. Peggy Rosenzwe	ig			
	Totals:	4	l	

Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging

Date: 5/19/99 Meeting Type Location: 4/1 See	pe: Public	e Heri	<i>y</i>
Committee Member	Present	Absent	Excused
Sen. Judy Robson, Chair			
Sen. Gwendolynne Moore	Ţ.		
Sen. Robert Wirch			
Sen. Carol Roessler			
Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig			
Total	s: 5		

Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging

1	eting Type:		. Hearing	1
Location: Rm 201, SE	State Cap	Hel		<i></i>
Committee Member		Present	Absent	Excused
Sen. Judy Robson, Chair				
Sen. Gwendolynne Moore				
Sen. Robert Wirch				
Sen. Carol Roessler				
Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig				
	Totals:	5		0

David a. austin

Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging

Date: 9 23 99 Meeting Type:	Executive Session		
Location: Rm 201, SE State Cepita	<u> </u>		
Committee Member	Present	Absent	Excused
Sen. Judy Robson, Chair			
Sen. Gwendolynne Moore			
Sen. Robert Wirch			
Sen. Carol Roessler			
Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig			
Totals:		\bigcirc	\bigcirc

Darid a. Christin

Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging

Date: $\frac{10/7/49}{2015E}$ Meetin	g Type:	public	L hearing	}
Committee Member Sen. Judy Robson, Chair Sen. Gwendolynne Moore Sen. Robert Wirch Sen. Carol Roessler Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig		Present	Absent	Excused
	Totals:	5	0	0

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Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging

Date: 10/7/99 Meeting	Туре: <u>е</u>	xecutue	- 5ess10	<u>n</u>
Location: 201 SE	,			
Committee Member	Pre	esent A	Absent E	Excused
Sen. Judy Robson, Chair	[
Sen. Gwendolynne Moore	. [
Sen. Robert Wirch	[
Sen. Carol Roessler		V ,		
Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig	[
Т	otals:	5	0	

Harid a. Austin



Senate Committed on Services and Aging

Wisconsin State Senator

Date: 10/21/99 Mee	eting Type:	execu	tive se	SSION
Location: $ZOI SE$,	Capital			
Committee Member		Present	Absent	Excused
Sen. Judy Robson, Chair		X		
Sen. Gwendolynne Moore		X		
Sen. Robert Wirch		X		
Sen. Carol Roessler				
Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig		\overline{X}		
	Totals:			



an Semices and Aging Senate Commi**ង្គ្រា**ក្រុ

Wisconsin State Senator

Date: 10/21/49 Meeting Type:	public	, hearing	<u> </u>
Location: 201 SE, Capital		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Committee Member	Present	Absent	Excused
Sen. Judy Robson, Chair			
Sen. Gwendolynne Moore			
Sen. Robert Wirch			
Sen. Carol Roessler			
Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig			
Totals:	5	0	6

Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging

Date:	18/00	Meetin	ig Type:	Execu	tive Sess	slon
Location:	201 5	outheast,	State	Capital		
Committe	e Member			Present	Absent	Excused
Sen. Judy	Robson, Cl	nair		X		
	ndolynne M			\square		
Sen. Rob	ert Wirch			X		
Sen. Card	l Roessler			\times		
Sen. Peg	gy Rosenzw	eig		X		
			Totals:	5	\sim	

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Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging

Date: <u> 18 00</u>	eting Type:	Public	. Hearing	
Committee Member		Present	Absent	Excused
Sen. Judy Robson, Chair		X		
Sen. Gwendolynne Moore		X		
Sen. Robert Wirch		X		
Sen. Carol Roessler		X		
Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig	•	X		
	Totals:	_5_		

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Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging

Date: 1/27/60 Meeting Type:	Public	Hearing	
Location: 201 SE, Capitol			
Committee Member	Present	Absent	Excused
Sen. Judy Robson, Chair	X		
Sen. Gwendolynne Moore	X		
Sen. Robert Wirch			\boxtimes
Sen. Carol Roessler	X		
Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig	\times		
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Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging

Date: 2-10-00 Meeting	g Type:	Public	: Hearing	
Location: 201 SE			0	
Committee Member		Present	Absent	Excused
Sen. Judy Robson, Chair		\searrow		·
Sen. Gwendolynne Moore		X		
Sen. Robert Wirch		X		
Sen. Carol Roessler		X		
Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig		\times		
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Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging

Date: 3/4/00	Meeting Type:	Execu	thre See	Sion
Location: 201 So	theast			
Committee Member		Present	Absent	Excused
Sen. Judy Robson, Ch	air			
Sen. Gwendolynne Mo	ore			
Sen. Robert Wirch				
Sen. Carol Roessler				
Sen. Peggy Rosenzwe	ig			
	Totals:			

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Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging

Date: 3/4/00 Meeting Typ Location: 201 Southeas		Hearing	j
Committee Member	Present	Absent	Excused
Sen. Judy Robson, Chair			
Sen. Gwendolynne Moore			
Sen. Robert Wirch			
Sen. Carol Roessler			
Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig			
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Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging

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Present	<u>Absent</u>	Excused
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		tate Capital

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	WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE - CO	MMITTEE ATTENDANCE FORM
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LEGI	SLATOR NAME Carol / Le	250

WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE - COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE FORM

LEGISLATOR NAME

DATE



END

DEC 0 1 1999

Tommy G. Thompson Governor

> Peter D. Fox Secretary



345 West Washington Avenue P.O. Box 7855 Madison, WI 53707-7855 Phone (608) 266-9820 FAX (608) 267-1020

DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS

December 1, 1999

State Senator Judith Robson State Capitol, Room 15 South Madison, WI 53703

Dear Senator Robson:

Thank you for expressing your concerns regarding the pay for Ombudsman Services Specialists in the Board on Aging and Long Term Care. As you may know, we are currently in contract negotiations with the Wisconsin State Employees Union (WSEU) which represents these employes. Wages, hours and conditions of employment are mandatory subjects of bargaining under current labor law. Upward movement for this group of employes requires agreement with the WSEU.

The Department of Employment Relations (DER) is currently bargaining with all employe representatives. We trust that the employes' representatives are weighing the concerns of each of their bargaining units when they come to the table. I'm certain you understand that DER is unable to side-bargain separately with any one group of employes, or in the absence of their certified representative, without committing an unfair labor practice. We have also agreed with the unions not to discuss details of bargaining outside the sessions so that all participants may freely exchange information and views.

I would not be fully responding to your concern about the Ombudsmen if I did not point out that DER is putting particular emphasis on recognizing market equity issues during this round of labor negotiations. The vigor of Wisconsin's economy (as well as that of the national and regional economies) has resulted in significantly greater competition between the private and public sectors for the same workforce pool and has created some compensation differentials between the two sectors. Private sector employers have been able to react more immediately to compensation needs in order to attract and retain employes.

During this round of bargaining, DER is working diligently to make maximum use of compensation-reserve resources available; the challenge is daunting. Working with state agencies, we have identified and prioritized numerous job classifications which would benefit from market-equity adjustments, although the final outcome is dependent upon the bargaining process. Because our compensation reserve resources are finite, we will be unable to meet all current, verifiable market-equity needs in this biennium within our existing resources; thus we must address market-equity issues on a priority basis. Demographic forecasts point to a continued, unprecedented tight labor market in which private and public sectors must compete head-to-head for the next decade and even longer.

Senator Robson Page 2 December 1, 1999

I am passing your recommendations about the Ombudsmen on to our bargaining team. If you would like more information on these classified employes, please write me again, or call or email Michael Soehner, assistant division administrator of Compensation and Labor Relations, at 267-9462 and Michael Soehner@der.state.wi.us.

My staff and I look forward to working with you and providing you the information necessary for strategic decision making. Please let me know how we can serve you.

Sincerely,

Peter D. Fox

Secretary

PDF/MRS

October 6, 1999

Senator Judith B. Robson State Capitol, 15 South P.O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Robson:

I serve as an Ombudsman for the Board on Aging and Long Term Care, but I am not writing to you as a spokesperson for the Board. I am writing to you for assistance with an important and urgent matter because you have long been supportive of the Ombudsman program.

I have been an Ombudsman for almost 11 years, serving as an advocate for some of Wisconsin's most vulnerable citizens, the elderly and disabled people who need long term care. I believe passionately in the work of the Ombudsman program; individually and collectively the Ombudsmen have been successful in improving the quality of life and quality of care for Wisconsin's long term care consumers.

In order for the Ombudsman program to continue to be successful, I am requesting your help to correct a gross disparity in pay. Due to a low pay range, it is becoming more difficult for my agency to recruit qualified people. Of the last 3 hired, only one is still an Ombudsman; the other two simply did not have the expertise to address the various complex issues and challenging situations of this advocacy work. Additionally, veteran Ombudsman are also underpaid. Although some think we do not have a retention problem, we have lost good people because they left the work they loved for higher paying jobs. It is true that most of us stay with the program. However, it then seems that our loyalty and dedication are being penalized by a low wage.

I ask that you contact DER on behalf of the Ombudsman program to ensure this classification is considered for a pay range increase during this Collective Bargaining cycle. Our management supports a pay increase for this position and has put money in the budget for this. Your immediate attention to this matter is necessary as once the budget is passed the contracts will be settled.

I have included information justifying this request. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions (days 920-492-5952, evenings 920-822-8930). Please report back to me on DER's response. Thank you for your efforts.

Sincerely,

Julie a. Button

Julie A. Button

6673 Wintergreen Trail

Sobieski, WI 54171

Justification for Ombudsman Pay Increase

Ombudsman positions are currently assigned to pay ranges 4 and 5. Since the Ombudsman position is quite unique, for a comparison, the Health Services Specialists are pay ranges 6 and 7. Some say similar knowledge and experience are required to do either job and that both share common concerns (however there are blatant differences as explained below), yet Health Services Specialists are two pay ranges above the Ombudsman position.

Ombudsmen provide advocacy services for consumers of long term care in nursing homes, facilities for the developmentally disabled (FDD), community based residential facilities (CBRF), adult family homes (AFH) and for those on the Community Options Program (COP). Work for COP clients at times results in Ombudsmen going to private homes, apartments, continuing care retirement communities and Residential Care Apartment Complexes (RCAC) and working with home health agencies, hospices, sheltered workshops and independent individual providers. Health Services Specialists only go into nursing homes and FDDs.

Ombudsmen investigate complaints about rights issues and care and treatment. While Ombudsmen have no regulatory authority, they do provide direct representation of the consumer and address issues outside of the regulatory framework, things Health Services Specialists cannot do. Ombudsmen seek to protect and promote the rights of long term care consumers. To improve quality of care and quality of life, Ombudsmen employ many problem-solving skills. These include advocacy, education (at times making formal presentations in front of large audiences), mediation, negotiation, and persuasion (articulating sound logic often persuades providers to "do the right thing"). To effectively do this, Ombudsmen must have knowledge of all applicable laws and administrative codes, including those pertaining to nursing homes, FDDs, CBRFs, AFHs, RCACs, COP, patient rights, Medicare, Medical Assistance, Hospice, Home Health, Guardianship, Protective Placement, Protective Services, Advance Directives, Adult Day Care, and elder abuse.

Consumers often prefer working with an Ombudsman rather than Health Services Specialists, mainly due to the consumer's primary desire for problem resolution, not enforcement action. Ombudsmen provide consultation, information and education to facility staff, residents, families and the general public. Health care providers often need and want direction and advice to improve the outcome for the consumer (and to avoid regulatory difficulties) so rely on Ombudsmen for this consultation. In providing good information to consumers, Ombudsmen are enabling and empowering consumers to advocate for themselves.

Ombudsmen periodically provide advocacy representation of clients at hearings and appeals when long term care services or benefits are being discontinued or denied. Advocacy efforts may also require working with law enforcement agencies, including police, district attorneys, county court systems, and the Department of Justice.

Ombudsmen are also charged with the responsibility of monitoring the long term care system, which includes oversight of proposed and existing regulations and statutes that pertain to long term care, and watch-dogging the regulatory agency, including the Health Service Specialists. Ombudsmen advocate for effective public policy that protects the rights of long-term care consumers. This is accomplished by providing expertise and anecdotal accounts to committees that draft legislative proposals. Ombudsmen also testify at public hearings. All of these efforts are to ensure that consumers are adequately represented in the legislative process.

Ombudsmen work independently (Health Services Specialists work with a team) and serve a large region. Staffing levels remain far below the nationally suggested ratio. Ombudsman workloads require skills in prioritizing, making appropriate referrals, and managing time. These independent decisions are made with only general supervision; Ombudsmen are solely responsible for their region, workload and the action taken on casework.

9213 W. Waterford Avenue
Greenfield, WI 53228

October 11, 1999

Senator Judith B. Robson State Capitol, 15 South P.O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Robson:

I serve as an Ombudsman for the Board on Aging and Long Term Care, but I am not writing to you as a spokesperson for the Board. I am writing to you in my individual capacity because I know that you have been a supporter of the Ombudsman program.

I have been an Ombudsman for 3 1/2 years, providing advocacy services for some of Wisconsin's most vulnerable citizens: elderly and disabled people who need long term care. I believe strongly in the value of the Ombudsman program, and am committed to seeing that its success in improving the quality of life and quality of care for Wisconsin's elderly and disabled citizens continues.

In order for the Ombudsman program to continue to be successful in the future, however, I believe it is necessary to address the low pay range to which Ombudsmen are assigned. Due to the relatively low pay, in conjunction with the wide breadth of knowledge, skills, and experience required in order to perform an Ombudsman's complex and varied duties, it is becoming increasingly difficult for the Board on Aging and Long Term Care to recruit and retain qualified people. In the past several years, we have lost two valued and experienced Ombudsmen to other agencies/businesses that were willing to compensate them on terms more commensurate with their respective levels of skills, knowledge and experience. The first left to take a regional position with the Department of Health and Family Services, Bureau of Quality Assurance, with a 2 pay-grade increase. The second left to take a position as a legal assistant with a private law firm, also with a significant increase in pay.

In the past 6 months, we have also lost two of the three new Ombudsmen who were hired. Both left to take other positions only months after being hired, in large part (I believe) because they did not have the knowledge, skills, or expertise needed to address the complex and challenging situations an Ombudsman must handle on a daily basis. Of these two, at least one also left to take a position with better pay. Although the loss of four employees in the past several years may not be significant to a large state agency, in

an agency with only 11 Ombudsmen positions in total, it is most definitely a significant loss. Finally, while it is true that most of the Ombudsmen do stay with the program for a significant period of time, I do not believe that our dedication and commitment to the people we serve should be penalized by the continuance of a low wage.

In light of the above, I ask that you contact DER on behalf of the Ombudsman program to ensure that the Ombudsman position classification is considered for a pay range increase during this Collective Bargaining cycle. Our management supports a pay increase for the Ombudsman position and has put money in our agency's budget for this purpose. Your immediate attention to this matter is necessary, and would be greatly appreciated, as once the budget is passed, the contracts will be settled.

I have enclosed an informational sheet with this letter, providing you with more detail regarding the services provided by the Ombudsman program and justification for my and my co-workers' requested pay range reassignment. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. My number at work (days) is: (414) 227-4080 (if you get voice mail, press # to skip over a lengthy voice mail message). My number at home (evenings) is: (414) 546-2525.

Please report back to me on DER's response. Thank you for your efforts.

Sincerely, aux adams

Dawn S. Adams

9213 W. Waterford Avenue

Greenfield, WI 53228

Enclosure

Justification for Ombudsman Pay Increase

Ombudsman positions are currently assigned to pay ranges 4 and 5. Since the Ombudsman position is quite unique, for a comparison, the Health Services Specialists are pay ranges 6 and 7. Some say similar knowledge and experience are required to do either job and that both share common concerns (however there are blatant differences as explained below), yet Health Services Specialists are two pay ranges above the Ombudsman position.

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Ombudsmen periodically provide advocacy representation of clients at hearings and appeals when long term care services or benefits are being discontinued or denied. Advocacy efforts may also require working with law enforcement agencies, including police, district attorneys, county court systems, and the Department of Justice.

Ombudsmen are also charged with the responsibility of monitoring the long term care system, which includes oversight of proposed and existing regulations and statutes that pertain to long term care, and watch-dogging the regulatory agency, including the Health Service Specialists. Ombudsmen advocate for effective public policy that protects the rights of long-term care consumers. This is accomplished by providing expertise and anecdotal accounts to committees that draft legislative proposals. Ombudsmen also testify at public hearings. All of these efforts are to ensure that consumers are adequately represented in the legislative process.

Ombudsmen work independently (Health Services Specialists work with a team) and serve a large region. Staffing levels remain far below the nationally suggested ratio. Ombudsman workloads require skills in prioritizing, making appropriate referrals, and managing time. These independent decisions are made with only general supervision; Ombudsmen are solely responsible for their region, workload and the action taken on casework.

October 11, 1999

Senator Judith B. Robson 15 South, P.O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Robson,

I am a Long Term Care Ombudsman, employed by the Sate of Wisconsin—Board on Aging and Long Term Care, and I am writing to you because you have long been a supporter of the Ombudsman program. I am not writing to you as a spokesperson for the Board on Aging and Long Term Care.

As a Long Term Care Ombudsman, I advocate for residents of nursing homes and community based residential facilities, as well as persons who receive Community Options Program funding at Residential Care Apartment Complexes. As their advocate, I investigate complaints of resident treatment in these facilities. I help residents and families through tough issues, and recommend to the facility staff ways to improve the care they receive. The people whom I advocate for are some of the most vulnerable citizens in this wonderful state. And often Ombudsmen are the first (and only) people called upon for help.

I write to you for your help in correcting a gross disparity in pay. Because Ombudsman experience a very low pay range, it is becoming increasingly difficult for the Board on Aging and Long Term Care to recruit qualified candidates. The essential functions of this position require a wide knowledge and experience base in the long-term care health field. In the recent past, qualified Ombudsmen have left the agency for higher-paying positions. Because all of us Ombudsman believe passionately in what we do, we dedicate ourselves to staying in our positions. However, it seems that our loyalty, dedication, and passion are being penalized by a low wage.

I ask that you contact DER on behalf of the Ombudsman program to ensure this classification is considered for a pay range increase during the collective bargaining cycle. Our management supports a pay increase for Ombudsmen; furthermore, management budgeted for a higher wage. Your immediate attention to this matter is necessary, requested, and sincerely appreciated. Time is crucial as once the budget is passed, the contracts will be settled.

I have included information justifying this request. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions at 262.251.5344 (home) or 414.227.4057 (work). Please report back to me on DER's response. Thank you for your efforts.

Sincerely,

Robert Jirschele

N110 W17158 Ashbury Lane, apt. 4

Germantown, WI 53022

The control of the co

October 13, 1999

Senator Judith B. Robson State Capitol 15 South P.O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882 andudmon

Dear Senator Robson:

I serve as an Ombudsman for the Board on Aging and Long Term Care (BOALTC), but I am not writing to you as a representative of the BOALTC. This letter is being sent to you because I have been told you are very sympathetic and sensitive to the elderly and disabled people who need long term care; therefore, I am requesting your assistance with an important and urgent matter.

Prior to becoming an Ombudsman, I worked as a registered dietitian in long term care for more than 10 years. I have been an advocate for elderly and people with disabilities since I can even remember. When a new Ombudsman position was created, I struggled with the decision of applying for it. I knew I could bring additional skills and long-tem care experience to a group of highly qualified professionals, but I hesitated because it meant taking a \$6.00 per hour pay cut. Yet, working in long-term care, I was becoming extremely disillusioned with the nursing home industry and believed that in the capacity of an Ombudsman, I might be able to make a difference.

Until I began working as an Ombudsman, I had no clue the areas of expertise one needs in this role. When first starting this new job, I felt pretty confident since I did have extensive experience in long-term care. However, early on it became quite evident what I didn't know, and also what level of knowledge and expertise I would need to acquire in order to appropriately provide any assistance to this most vulnerable population.

I believe passionately in the work of the Ombudsman program; individually and collectively the Ombudsmen have been successful in improving the quality of life and the quality of care for Wisconsin's long-term care consumers.

The Ombudsman program is expanding and for it to continue to be successful, I am requesting your help to correct a gross disparity in pay. Due to a low pay range, it is becoming more difficult for my agency to recruit qualified people. Of the last 3 hired, only one is still an Ombudsman; the other two simply did not have the expertise to address the various complex issues and challenging situations of this advocacy work. Additionally, veteran Ombudsmen are also underpaid. Although some think we do not have a retention problem, we have lost people who made a difference in the lives of our long-term care consumers because they left the work they loved for higher paying jobs. Accordingly, it is true that most stay, but it seems our loyalty, dedication and knowledge that we are making a difference in peoples' lives is being penalized by a low wage.

I ask that you contact Department of Employment Relations (DER) on behalf of the Ombudsman program to ensure this classification is considered for a pay range increase during this Collective Bargaining cycle. Our management supports a pay increase for this position and has put money in the budget for this. Your immediate attention to this matter is necessary as once the budget is passed, the contracts will be settled.

I have included information justifying this request. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions (days (414) 227-3941, evenings (414) 673-7769). Please report back to me on DER's response. Thank you very much for your efforts.

Sincerely,

Vickie Sali 3239 Simon Drive

Virkin

Hartford, WI 53027

Justification for Ombudsman Pay Increase

Ombudsman positions are currently assigned to pay ranges 4 and 5. Since the Ombudsman position is quite unique, for a comparison, the Health Services Specialists are pay ranges 6 and 7. Some say similar knowledge and experience are required to do either job and that both share common concerns (however there are blatant differences as explained below), yet Health Services Specialists are two pay ranges above the Ombudsman position.

Ombudsmen provide advocacy services for consumers of long term care in nursing homes, facilities for the developmentally disabled (FDD), community based residential facilities (CBRF), adult family homes (AFH) and for those on the Community Options Program (COP). Work for COP clients at times results in Ombudsmen going to private homes, apartments, continuing care retirement communities and Residential Care Apartment Complexes (RCAC) and working with home health agencies, hospices, sheltered workshops and independent individual providers. Health Services Specialists only go into nursing homes and FDDs.

Ombudsmen investigate complaints about rights issues and care and treatment. While Ombudsmen have no regulatory authority, they do provide direct representation of the consumer and address issues outside of the regulatory framework, things Health Services Specialists cannot do. Ombudsmen seek to protect and promote the rights of long term care consumers. To improve quality of care and quality of life, Ombudsmen employ many problem-solving skills. These include advocacy, education (at times making formal presentations in front of large audiences), mediation, negotiation, and persuasion (articulating sound logic often persuades providers to "do the right thing"). To effectively do this, Ombudsmen must have knowledge of all applicable laws and administrative codes, including those pertaining to nursing homes, FDDs, CBRFs, AFHs, RCACs, COP, patient rights, Medicare, Medical Assistance, Hospice, Home Health, Guardianship, Protective Placement, Protective Services, Advance Directives, Adult Day Care, and elder abuse.

Consumers often prefer working with an Ombudsman rather than Health Services Specialists, mainly due to the consumer's primary desire for problem resolution, not enforcement action. Ombudsmen provide consultation, information and education to facility staff, residents, families and the general public. Health care providers often need and want direction and advice to improve the outcome for the consumer (and to avoid regulatory difficulties) so rely on Ombudsmen for this consultation. In providing good information to consumers, Ombudsmen are enabling and empowering consumers to advocate for themselves.

Ombudsmen periodically provide advocacy representation of clients at hearings and appeals when long term care services or benefits are being discontinued or denied. Advocacy efforts may also require working with law enforcement agencies, including police, district attorneys, county court systems, and the Department of Justice.

Ombudsmen are also charged with the responsibility of monitoring the long term care system, which includes oversight of proposed and existing regulations and statutes that pertain to long term care, and watch-dogging the regulatory agency, including the Health Service Specialists. Ombudsmen advocate for effective public policy that protects the rights of long-term care consumers. This is accomplished by providing expertise and anecdotal accounts to committees that draft legislative proposals. Ombudsmen also testify at public hearings. All of these efforts are to ensure that consumers are adequately represented in the legislative process.

Ombudsmen work independently (Health Services Specialists work with a team) and serve a large region. Staffing levels remain far below the nationally suggested ratio. Ombudsman workloads require skills in prioritizing, making appropriate referrals, and managing time. These independent decisions are made with only general supervision; Ombudsmen are solely responsible for their region, workload and the action taken on casework.



November 23, 1999

BY INTER-D MAIL

Mr. Peter Fox Secretary, Department of Employment Relations 345 West Washington Avenue Madison, Wisconsin 53703

Dear Mr. Fox

I am writing to urge you to increase the pay range classification for the position of Ombudsman for the Board on Aging and Long Term Care. As you know, Ombudsmen are assigned to pay ranges 4 and 5. By comparison, Health Service Specialists are assigned to pay ranges 6 and 7. The difference in pay is significant.

It is my understanding that the Board on Aging and Long Term Care supports this reclassification and has budgeted money for a pay increase.

In addition, a reclassification is appropriate given the nature of the work done by the ombudsmen and a comparison of that work with similar work done by Health Services Specialists.

Ombudsmen play a significant role in protecting and improving the lives of Wisconsin's most vulnerable citizens. They work in a variety of settings, including nursing homes, home health agencies, hospices and adult day care centers. They understand a number of state and federal programs that provide funding and administrative oversight for people in those programs. Ombudsmen are familiar with a wide body of law and administrative rules relating to these programs. In all these ways, Ombudsmen are similar to Health Service Specialists.

And while the work of Health Service Specialists is needed and valuable, so too is the work done by Ombudsmen. Ombudsmen seek to protect and promote the rights of Wisconsin residents to be in safe and healthy settings and programs. Resolution of difficult problems through a non-conflictive process is valuable to both clients and health care providers.

Mr. Peter Fox November 23, 1999 Page 2

In short, there is no denying the valuable work done by Ombudsmen. I also think a compelling case can be made that the Ombudsman position is similar in many important ways to that of the Health Services Specialist position.

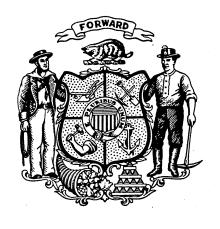
For those reasons, I encourage you to reclassify the Ombudsman position to pay ranges 6 and 7.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to working with you to ensure the best possible service for Wisconsin residents through a competent and well-compensated workforce.

Sincerely

Senator Judith/Robson 15th Senate/District

JR:da



END



March 23, 1999

Good Friend 123 Main Rock County

Dear Good Friend,

I wanted to let you know about an upcoming event in the 15th Senate District. I will be holding a public hearing of the Senate Human Services and Aging Committee at the Rock County Courthouse. The event will take place on Wednesday, April 14th, 1999 at 4:00 p.m.

People are invited to discuss: the tobacco settlement, W-2, Badgercare, Family Care (Long-term care), Respite Care, HIRSP, Youth aids, W2 contracts, public health programs, immunization, or any other issue related to human services and aging.

As someone who's opinion a have come to value and respect, I would appreciate any comments you could offer on any of these subjects.

If you have any questions about the meeting, do not hesitate to call my office at 1/800-334-1468. I hope to see you on the 14^{th} !

Sincerely,

Judith B. Robson State Senator 15th Senate District

Attachment: 1 [I will include a copy of the hearing notice.]



Judith B. Robson

Wisconsin State Senator

CHAIR, HUMAN SERVICES AND AGING COMMITTEE

April 28, 1999

Pat Grove Walworth Public Health Officer PO Box 1006 Elkhorn, WI 53121

Dear Pat Grove,

On April 14th, I held a Senate Human Services and Aging Committee meeting in the 15th Senate District in Janesville at the Rock County Courthouse. The agenda was open to any human services, aging, health-related budget item.

I was happy to see that over 100 people signed in over the course of the evening. I felt like the goal of bringing some of the concerns of the 15th Senate District to the committee was accomplished.

Unfortunately, due to the unanticipated size of the crowd I was unable to hear your testimony. As someone who registered to speak, I am sorry you were unable to stay longer. The hearing went until 8:00 p.m.

I have taken the liberty of distributing your testimony to all of the committee members and would be happy to discuss any concerns in the future.

Again, I thank you for attending the hearing and I apologize for any inconvenience.

Sincerely,

Judith B. Robson Chair, Human Services and Aging 15th Senate District

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Committee Meeting Attendance Sheet

Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging

Date: 4/14/99 Meeting Type: Location: Pock Canty Janearile	Pullic Ho	Panny	
Committee Member	Present	Absent	Excused
Sen. Judy Robson, Chair			
Sen. Gwendolynne Moore			
Sen. Robert Wirch			
Sen. Carol Roessler			
Sen. Peggy Rosenzweig			
Totals:	/		

Committee Clerk



CHAIR, HUMAN SERVICES AND AGING COMMITTEE

March 29, 1999

Senator Chuck Chvala Chair, Senate Organization Committee Room 211 South State Capitol Building Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Chvala:

I am writing to request permission to hold a public hearing and executive session of the Senate Human Services and Aging Committee outside of Madison. The hearing will take place on Wednesday, April 14th, 1999 at 4:00 p.m. at the Rock County Courthouse in Janesville, Wisconsin.

In addition, I would appreciate the necessary staffing and compensation for staff and legislators for this meeting.

I appreciate your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

Judith B Robson
State Senator

15th Senate District

JBR:chmiv



State Senator Chuck Chvala SENATE MAJORITY LEADER

April 6, 1999

The Honorable Judith Robson Wisconsin State Senator Rm. No. 15 S., Capitol Madison, WI 53706

Dear Senator Robson:

The Senate Committee on Organization has approved your request for the Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging to travel to Janesville, Wisconsin on April 14, 1999 for the purpose of holding a Public Hearing and an Executive Session.

It is the Committee's understanding that you are seeking reimbursement for all actual and necessary expenses associated with the committee members' attendance at this hearing. It is further understood that you are seeking approval for additional staff support from the Senate Sergeant-at-Arms, if required.

Your request has been approved contingent upon the Senate not being in session. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

CHUCK CHVALA

Chairman

Senate Committee on Organization

Ehruh Chrola

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First Name	Last Name	Organization Name	House
Anna	Adams		446
Ryan	Bach		1822
Stephanie	Barbarick		1821
Bertha	Bausch		1806
Kimberly	Braden		1750
Ann	Capela	Walworth County Human Services Administrator	100
Erin	Clark	-	832
Bonnie	Cunningham		7414
Joni	Dabson		2720
Gwen	Daluge		3719
Kay	Deupree		804
Ashley	Driver		1740
Julie	Elliott		519
Karen	Fisher		2300
Shawn	Fredricks		4323
Mallery	Gill		2346
John	Graf		1628
Mike	Guisleman	Manager, Rock County Adult Community Services	5424
Mat	Hayer	, and the second	3605
Kim	Hillison		1607
Tabitha and Mike			2135
	Knutson	·	5955
Dorothy Helen	Krause	Rock County Health Officer	PO Box 1143
	Maybee	Rock County Chair	164
Terry	Mulry	Director, Rock County Human Services Departme	22
Don	Pankhurst	Director, record obtains from the	1121
Jean	Plautz		2815
Alice	Pliner		4418
Ann			551
Sharon	Pyatt Schuyler	Rock County Job Center	1900
Gwen	Scieszinski	Rock County Health Care Center Administrator	PO Box 351
Terry	Skinner	NOOK County Fleath Care Conton / terminotrator	121
Diane			1328
Chad	Snyder	~	726
Bridget	StLuka	Rock County Human Services Department	1900
Cindy	Sutton	NOUN County Human Services Department	519
Monette	Thiele		3208
Connie	Thompson		470
Cliff	Woolever		6335
Carol	Zilliox		0000

Street	City	State	Zip	Home Phone
	Janesville	WI		(608) 754-6887
, v - O - O - O - O - O - O - O - O - O -	Beloit	WI	53511	(608) 362-2679
Mary Street	Beloit	WI	53511	(608) 365-8469
N Pontiac Drive	Janesville	WI	53545	(608) 754-0575
Ritsher	Beloit	WI	53511	(608) 362-5417
Walworth Street	Walworth	WI	53121	
Tenth Street	Beloit	WI	53511	(608) 363-8407
W Hickory Hills	Beloit	WI	53511	(608) 879-2038
Schaller Street	Janesville	WI	53546	(608) 756-9609
S County Road G	Janesville	WI	53546	(608) 752-6608
Broad	Beloit	WI	53511	(608) 363-6272
Sumac Court	Janesville	WI	53511	(608) 365-4771
N Arch	Janesville	WI	53545	(608) 756-0707
Kellogg Avenue	Janesville	WI	53546	
Hearthstone	Janesville	WI	53546	(608) 755-1715
Ute Court	Beloit	WI	53511	(608) 362-8533
Newman Street	Janesville	WI	53545	
	Edgerton	WI	1	(608) 884-9272
Edgewood	Janesville	WI		(608) 752-8175
Wolcott Street	Janesville	WI		(608) 752-4756
Morningside Drive	Janesville	WI	53546	(608) 758-7664
N Newville Road	Milton	WI		(608) 752-1245
	Janesville	WI		(608) 757-5442
S Jackson	Janesville	WI		(608) 754-8615
Blackhawk	Janesville	WI		(608) 758-4786
Milton Avenue	Janesville	WI		(608) 756-1250
Dartmouth	Janesville	WI		(608) 754-6806
Woodgate	Janesville	WI		(608) 758-8770
Williams	Janesville	WI		(608) 754-8168
Center Avenue	Janesville	WI		(608) 741-3593
	Janesville	WI		(608) 757-5075
S Fifth Street	Evansville	WI		(608) 882-5351
S Crosby	Janesville	WI		(608) 754-9114
N Arch Street	Janesville	WI		(608) 756-9519
Center Avenue	Janesville	WI		6 (608) 741-3441
N Arch	Janesville	WI		(608) 756-0707
Village Ct	Janesville	WI		6 (608) 741-2308
Garfield	Evansville	WI		6 (608) 882-5700
N Consolidated S	Janesville	WI	53545	(608) 732-0278

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Gerald R. Goodwin

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S82-5700 Most Hayer 3605 Edgewood JSVE 752-8175 Juan D. Eckhaln Bolot 8793382 757-544/ TIMOTHY CBANKEII JANOSUILLE Diane Porter 1151 M. Parker Janesville 53545 756-7487 13 Green-RockCoHSD - 741-344 GEVEN SCHNYUKK ROLL CO. JUB CENTER JUSUILLE 741-35-9 New DEUPREE 4195 FRANKLW JUL 752-834 752-7714 the Jones Ville Edwin I In mor 712 E.M. lwante Jul 756-0809 Marcy pomler \$84-9272 Mile Dieslaman 5424 w fomeroy Re Edgerten 1414 Q. Hickory Hills Beloit 819. 2038 Bonnie Gennin Shaw 314 S. Atwood GANEOUIL 752-2092 Mency tenhim 2616 Aushin Pl Bebit 364-0002 Marion Fass 365-5900 Lyun Eppling 851 Park Beloit 804 Broad Belost 3636272 Cay Depre Terry G. Maybee 1645. Jackson Jamesville W. 754-8615 Vickie Dem 3235 Ruger Jonemille, 752-9569 121 5. FIFTH Street EJANSUILP 482-5351 DIAM SKINNEY Dennir Murphy Barl Sequin 1107 Harrison Belock 3645 TORBY FIRST 40 Bx 351 TAN DILL 757:502 Le Leaeth Sigt 157-5492 Helen & rau= Walnuth Co Wilth Det 741-3140 TAT GROVE-4527 Ruser Janesville 756078 Michael Sheridan Rock Co. UWEX 757-5690 Donna Duns

Olice, Planty 2815 DOTFMOUTH JUL. 154-6806 Bill Breidenstein 1810 Kensington & Will 757-657 Kern Lewis 266-3267 Janet M. La Brie 549 D. Grant Jusuel 758-3357 Marcy Berner-Beldy Meals On Wheels-Below 424 College Ukristine Sphireling RSVP of Lock Co. 363-9593 MEMBER, 1243 BOYNON ET, TANEON ALAN Reivicke 1826 Eastward Janes Ville Levis & Molycie 111 Bluf St. Below How K. CAPELA 100 WALLOWING St. Elkhorn. Wi 4923 Pitt 10 741. 4157 BROWN 1815 DEN 365-8768 Bach, 1822 Dell Dr. 302-2679 Chad Supplier 13285 Crosby 1607 Watcott'st, Janesville 2720 5 challerst 756-9609 JENI DOSSON Chelsey Tubbs Anna Adams 446 N Oakhil Janesulle 754-65 Jaci Pankhurst 1528 Keilogg 2 ve 754-4046 History Driver 1740 Sumac Ct Beloit W1 365-4519 Jennter Kung 860 8th St Beloit WI 365-47 Sharon Tyoth 551 Williams Jy 754-8168 Ango Hemy 1145 Summer Peloed 355-091 aren fish 2300 Killogg are jonesville 53546 Kimballer Braden 1750 Ritsher

Phone Address Name 2346 Uto Ochret Beloit 360 Bill Hallstrom 2042 Meridith $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{T}}$ 3elo.+ 365-538 154/ Should 362. 7006 L. Bixxun Hornly 2135 Morningsile Dr. J'ville 758-8664 Morningside De J'ille 758-8664 Toup 2252W. (heedif 1658/ Suman ST. 12 JUL. W. 53545 1942 Faireriew Dr Beleit 362-7951 2229 Commons J'uille 752-9838 are Janesville 75th-125 4323 Headestone Janesville 755-1715 365-8469 Beloit 365-0570 Belort 363-840 ie K Elliott Janes 7560107 Monette Thiele

> Jabitha Hornby on other 1.57 Mike