



KARL VAN ROY

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

For Immediate Release
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ASSEMBLY TO ATTEMPT OVERRIDE!

Governor's veto hurting nursing homes, seniors

MADISON – Brown County nursing homes could be forced to lay off employees or cut services according to State Rep. Karl Van Roy (R-Howard) if one of Governor Doyle's budget vetoes is not overridden by the State Legislature. The Assembly had included a modest 1.4% rate increase in Medicaid payments to nursing homes in its biennial budget, however, Governor Doyle vetoed the proposal, crippling nursing homes who were already being shortchanged in Medicaid payments.

"This is about the seniors in my district and the good folks who care for them," said Van Roy. They've been shortchanged by the state for years and now they're at the breaking point."

Van Roy said that his office has received dozens of contacts from nursing home owners, staff, and residents over the last week in support of an override attempt. Many of them say that their jobs or financial well being are on the line because of Doyle's veto.

"The uproar coming from nursing home employees in my district has been tremendous," said Van Roy. The hardworking staff at care centers Grancare in Green Bay are really worried about what these vetoes could mean for their paychecks and their families."

The Assembly is scheduled to make the override attempt next Tuesday, September 20th. They will need a 2/3 majority or 66 votes to override Governor Doyle's veto meaning that at least six democrats will have to join the 60 member Republican majority in the vote.

"This isn't about partisan politics, it's about people," said Van Roy. "When it comes to supporting our seniors, the disabled, BadgerCare recipients and the others who need our help, I hope that the Democrats will be there in a nonpartisan fashion."

If the override is successful, approximately \$277 million dollars will be returned to Medicaid related programs. This will guarantee the solvency of the state's obligations to SeniorCare and BadgerCare recipients, nursing homes, and the disabled.

"The money is there," said Van Roy. "Governor Doyle's veto took it from Medicaid and gave it to the Secretary of Administration. We're going to give it back."

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