



# WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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P.O. Box 7882 • Madison, WI 53707-7882

March 28, 2019

Seema Verma, MPH  
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
7500 Security Boulevard  
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

Dear Administrator Verma,

We, the undersigned members of the Wisconsin State Legislature, are writing to express our support for Wisconsin SeniorCare and to strongly urge for continued federal support of this vital and extremely successful prescription drug assistance program for seniors.

As you know, Wisconsin has the best prescription drug assistance program in the country. SeniorCare provides much-needed relief to more than 92,000 seniors age 65 and over in our state who might otherwise be unable to afford their needed medications.

We take great pride in the fact that SeniorCare is the best prescription drug assistance plan for seniors in the country. We are hopeful that through continued partnership with your agency that SeniorCare will continue to exist alongside Medicare to help significantly lower prescription drugs costs for Wisconsin seniors.

Because the state can use its purchasing power under SeniorCare to negotiate the lowest prices for prescription medication, it not only provides lower costs for its participants, but it saves taxpayer dollars as well.

Last summer, the state requested a 10-year renewal to continue this popular program through December 31, 2028. This waiver would remove much anxiety for those who rely on SeniorCare by making certain to them that the program will continue for many years to come.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) granted Wisconsin a 60-day waiver to continue its review of our request for renewal. However, that waiver expires on March 31<sup>st</sup> and many of Wisconsin's seniors are growing concerned that this waiver has not yet been approved and CMS may not approve our renewal or at least not before the March 31<sup>st</sup> deadline.

For these reasons, we respectfully request that Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services make all efforts necessary to approve the continuation of SeniorCare prior to the March 31<sup>st</sup> deadline.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to working with your agency on this vitally important health care issue.

Sincerely,

**Dave Hansen**  
State Senator

**Patty Schachtner**  
State Senator

**Beth Meyers**  
State Representative

**Jennifer Shilling**  
State Senator

**Gordon Hintz**  
State Representative

**Jimmy Anderson**  
State Representative

**Janet Bewley**  
State Senator

**Jill Billings**  
State Representative

**David Bowen**  
State Representative

**Jonathan Brostoff**  
State Representative

**Marisabel Cabrera**  
State Representative

**Tim Carpenter**  
State Senator

**David Crowley**  
State Representative

**Steve Doyle**  
State Representative

**Jodi Emerson**  
State Representative

**Jon Erpenbach**  
State Representative

**Jason Fields**  
State Representative

**Evan Goyke**  
State Representative

**Stausz Gruszynski**  
State Representative

**Gary Hebl**  
State Representative

**Diane Hesselbein**  
State Representative

**LaTonya Johnson**  
State Senator

**Debra Kolste**  
State Representative

**Mark Miller**  
State Senator

**Nick Milroy**  
State Representative

**LaKeshia Myers**  
State Representative

**Greta Neubauer**  
State Representative

**Tod Ohnstad**  
State Representative

**Sondy Pope**  
State Representative

**Daniel Riemer**  
State Representative

**Janis Ringhand**  
State Senator

**Fred Risser**  
State Senator

**Katrina Shankland**  
State Representative

**Christine Sinicki**  
State Representative

**Jeff Smith**  
State Senator

**Mark Spreitzer**  
State Representative

**Sheila Stubbs**  
State Representative

**Lisa Subeck**  
State Representative

**Chris Taylor**  
State Representative

**Robert Wirch**  
State Senator