

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Rodriguez Votes for Complex Care Package**

**MADISON** – The Assembly convened on Thursday to pass many bills. Among those bills are three that comprise the 'Complex Care Package.' Rep. Jessie Rodriguez (R-Oak Creek) praised Rep. Patrick Snyder (R-Schofield) for bringing this package forward.

"Every day, there are hundreds of hospital patients in Wisconsin who are ready to be discharged but do not have a post-acute care facility to go to," explained Rodriguez. "This leads to additional days in the hospital, which is costly. Today we passed the Complex Care Package to begin piloting new, innovative partnerships to address this."

Assembly Bill 1087 (AB 1087) directs the Department of Health Services (DHS) to provide supplemental payments to hospitals that have these patients who are ready for discharge but have nowhere to go. It also requires DHS to develop enhanced Medicaid reimbursement rates for nursing home residents with bariatric or extensive wound care needs.

Assembly Bill 1088 (AB 1088) establishes the Complex Needs Care Pilot Program, which will provide grants for partnerships around caring for patients with complex needs. AB 1088 also requires DHS to allocate 250 nursing home beds, and makes changes to the surrogate-decision making process to ensure incapacitated patients not requiring hospital care can be moved to a more appropriate placement.

Assembly Bill 1086 (AB 1086) provides the funding for these bills.

"This problem needs to be addressed. I'm thankful to Representative Snyder for bringing these proposals, and am hopeful that this package of bills will provide support in the healthcare industry to help patients move on from their hospital stay and into a facility for rehabilitation or palliative services," concluded Rep. Rodriguez.

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