



Media Release

For Immediate Release
April 10, 2015

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Walker's Budget to Cause Layoff of 700 Home Health Care Workers
Slinger-based GeminiCares announces closure, citing budget concerns

MADISON – GeminiCares, a Wisconsin-based home health care provider, announced this week it will end operations in Wisconsin, citing concerns about Governor Walker's drastic changes to long-term care programs in the 2015-2017 budget. The GeminiCares closure will cause 700 Wisconsin workers to be laid off statewide, including 92 in Stevens Point.

In response, Rep. Katrina Shankland (D-Stevens Point) released the following statement:

"Governor Walker's job-killing budget hasn't even passed and we're already seeing severe economic consequences. The governor proposed a massive upheaval of Wisconsin's successful long-term care system without soliciting input from the individuals, families, care providers, and small business owners who will be affected. His budget has created uncertainty for care providers, and now a Wisconsin company is pulling out of our state and laying off 700 workers.

"I sympathize with the 92 Stevens Point workers and the 700 workers statewide who will lose their jobs because of the governor's short-sighted plan. I am also extremely concerned for GeminiCares' clients, who will have to find new caregivers for their personal and long-term care needs. I hope the legislature will fix the budget for them and the many others who rely on caregivers for their independence and quality of life.

"It's clear that Governor Walker's budget is killing jobs and putting workers, families, and the economy at risk. I urge the Joint Finance Committee to remove the governor's drastic proposal to upend the long-term care system from the budget. We owe it to our constituents."

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