



State of Wisconsin
Department of Health Services

Scott Walker, Governor
Kitty Rhoades, Secretary

June 9, 2016

Honorable Alberta Darling
Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Finance
Room 317 East
State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882


Honorable John Nygren
Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Finance
Room 309 East
State Capitol
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Senator Darling and Representative Nygren:

On March 31, 2016, pursuant to section 9118(9)(e) of 2015 Act 55, I submitted for the Committee's approval the Department's concept plan for Family Care/IRIS 2.0 reforms mandated in Act 55. This concept paper was the culmination of 10 public hearings, dozens of meetings with advocates and stakeholders and thousands of hours of work with the goal of providing better care for consumers at a lower cost to taxpayers. Since then, the Committee has not convened to act on the proposal, with some Joint Finance members indicating it may not do so for several months.

We have received comments, feedback, and questions from providers, advocates, legislators, and most importantly consumers on our approach for a sustainable solution that provides better care for consumers at a lower cost to taxpayers. Therefore, I am writing to withdraw the concept plan approval request at this time. I remain committed to the goal of an integrated outcome-based care model that coordinates all of an individual's care needs. I look forward to working with members of the legislature, advocates and stakeholders to continue to make progress towards this goal and improve the quality, coordination and cost effectiveness of Medicaid services.

Sincerely,


Kitty Rhoades
Secretary