

1 087-112018

2 **RESOLUTION: Support HR Bill 6986, The Nursing Home Workforce Quality Act**

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5 **TO THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

6 **WHEREAS**, nursing homes that are assessed penalties above a certain level automatically lose their
7 authority to train certified nursing assistants (CNAs) for two years as mandated by the Omnibus Budget
8 Reconciliation Act of 1987 (OBRA); and

9 **WHEREAS**, HR Bill 6986 has been introduced in the House of Representatives to modify the mandatory
10 CNA “training lockout” penalty mandated by OBRA by giving the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
11 and the states the discretion to impose a lockout under certain conditions. Any lockout imposed would end once the
12 deficiencies cited were corrected; and

13 **WHEREAS**, because nursing homes and other long-term care providers are dealing with a severe workforce
14 shortage, the ability to train CNAs is crucial to building and maintaining qualified staff, and with the modification, CMS
15 and the states would have greater flexibility in reinstating providers’ valuable CNA training programs, according to
16 Katie Smith Sloan, president of LeadingAge, a charitable organization focused on education, advocacy, and applied
17 research; and

18 **WHEREAS**, with this legislation, allowing nursing homes to regain their CNA training authority as soon as
19 deficiencies have been corrected, the quality of our nation’s nursing homes and other long-term care facilities will be
20 greatly improved.

21 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby
22 supports HR Bill 6986, the Nursing Home Workforce Quality Act, which is intended to modify the Omnibus Budget
23 Reconciliation Act of 1987’s (OBRA) mandate of strict penalties assessed against nursing homes and long-term care
24 facilities by automatically suspending their authority to train certified nursing assistants (CNAs) for a two years, by
25 allowing facilities to reinstate CNA training once the deficiencies are corrected.

26 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Winnebago County Board of Supervisors that it hereby directs the
27 Winnebago County Clerk to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Office of the Governor for the State of
28 Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Counties Association, and all state legislators and assembly members representing
29 Winnebago County constituents.

32 Respectfully submitted by:
33 **LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

34 Committee Vote: **12-0**

35 Vote Required for Passage: **Three-Fourths of Those Members Present**

36 Approved by the Winnebago County Executive this ____ day of _____, 2018.

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41 _____
42 Mark L Harris
Winnebago County Executive