

EVIDENCE-BASED HEALTH POLICY PROJECT

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Symposium *Federal Health Care Reform Legislation: What Do Wisconsin Policymakers Do Now?*

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Biographies

Joy Johnson Wilson is Federal Affairs Counsel and Health Policy Director at the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL). NCSL represents the legislatures of the 50 states, its commonwealths, territories and the District of Columbia. As Federal Affairs Counsel, she assists with overall government relations, administrative, and public affairs activities in the NCSL Washington Office and is responsible for the operation of the Washington Office in the absence of the Director. As Director of Health Policy, she designs and implements the lobbying strategy for the conference on health care issues.

Ms. Wilson has been with NCSL since 1978. She took a leave of absence in 1989 to serve on the staff of the U.S. Bipartisan Commission on Comprehensive Health Care, better known as the "Pepper Commission." On the Pepper Commission staff, she was the liaison to groups representing state and local elected officials, organized field hearings and worked on issues related to the impact of health care reform on small business. She recently served as a non-voting member of Medicaid Commission established by Secretary Mike Leavitt of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Ms. Wilson received a Bachelor of Science from Keene State College in New Hampshire and a Master of Regional Planning degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Andrew Webber joined the National Business Coalition on Health (NBCH) as President and CEO in June of 2003. NBCH is a national, not-for-profit, membership organization of 60 purchaser-based coalitions on health, dedicated to improving health, transforming health care, community by community.

Mr. Webber currently sits on the Board of Directors of the National Quality Forum, the Leapfrog Group, and the combined Bridges to Excellence and Prometheus Payment organizations. He is a Principal of the Hospital Quality Alliance and the Quality Alliance steering committee, and NBCH is a member of the Ambulatory Quality Alliance and the Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative. Mr. Webber is also a member of the Purchaser/Business Advisory Councils for the National Committee for Quality Assurance, the Joint Commission for the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, and the eHealth Initiative.

Prior to joining NBCH, Mr. Webber was a Vice President for External Relations and Public Policy at the National Committee for Quality Assurance. Mr. Webber started his health policy career in 1978 as an employee of the Washington Business Group on Health (currently renamed the National Business Group on Health), rising to the position of Vice President for Public Policy.

Katharine Witgert is a Program Manager at the National Academy for State Health Policy (NASHP) where her projects focus on health system innovations, expanding health care coverage, and improving access to care. She joined NASHP in 2008 with a background in health policy and public health. She has previously worked in state and federal agencies implementing and evaluating public health and Medicaid programs, and also served as a liaison from Department of Health and Human Services agencies to Congress. She holds a Master's degree in public health from the Yale School of Epidemiology and Public Health.



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Patricia Taylor McManus, Ph.D., RN, CNPM, is Co- Founder and President/CEO of the Black Health Coalition of Wisconsin, Inc., (BHCW). The BHCW is a community-based health advocacy organization. She is also on the faculties of the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee School of Nursing, Marquette University College of Nursing and the Medical College of Wisconsin, Department of Pediatrics.

She is a member of the Milwaukee Chapter-National Black Nurses Association, and currently on the board of the National Black Nurses Association. She served on the Technical Expert Panel for the Evaluation of the federal Healthy Start Program and is a board member of the National African American Tobacco Prevention Network and Director of the Wisconsin African American Tobacco Free Network.

As President & CEO of the BHC, Dr. McManus is actively involved in health care issues at the local, state and national levels advocating for access, quality and inclusion for everyone. She has consulted for organizations such as the Kellogg Foundation and the National Institutes of Health, Department on Aging on health issues related to cultural competence, systems change and resiliency. She is also a national consultant on domestic violence, infant mortality, and community empowerment and capacity building for African American communities.

David Newby is President of the Wisconsin State AFL-CIO, a federation of over 1000 local unions which collectively represent some 250,000 workers in Wisconsin united to achieve economic justice in the workplace and social justice in our communities.

For the past nine years Newby has led the Federation's initiative to ensure that everyone in Wisconsin has comprehensive, affordable, quality health care. In 2003 the Wisconsin AFL-CIO created the Wisconsin Health Care Partnership Plan, which combined with other universal health care proposals to form "Healthy Wisconsin: Your Choice, Your Plan", a health care plan providing health care for all that has gained national attention as a model for reform of our health care system.

Before being elected President in 1994, Newby served eight years as Secretary-Treasurer and Legislative Director of the State AFL-CIO, where he led its legislative campaigns for Family and Medical Leave, improved health and safety in the workplace, plant closing notification, expanded access to health care, and increases in the Minimum Wage. Newby served as the elected Chair of the Midwest AFL-CIO State Federations, and as their representative to the National AFL-CIO Executive Council, 2000-2006.

Larry Zanoni is the Executive Director of Group Health Cooperative of South Central Wisconsin (GHC-SCW). GHC-SCW began operations in 1976 and is a non-profit, member sponsored HMO dedicated to providing quality, cost-effective healthcare. Mr. Zanoni has been with GHC-SCW since its inception in 1975, serving as Operations Director from 1975 to 1987 and became Executive Director in 1988.

For four years in a row, the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), ranked GHC-SCW among the top 10 health plans in the nation. NCQA is a private not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving health care quality.

GHC-SCW owns and operates five primary care clinics and services more than 62,000 members and employs more than 680 staff.

Mr. Zanoni earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Loyola University and a Masters of Public Health degree from the University of Michigan. He is active with the Wisconsin Association of Health Plans, where he has served as Treasurer since 1989. He serves on the HIRSP Board of Governors. Larry is a past Board member of the American Red Cross – Badger Chapter and serves on the Board of the Alliance for Community Health Plans. He is also an active member of the Downtown Rotary Club and is a Director Elect for the Rotary Board of Directors.