



WISCONSIN ACADEMY of FAMILY PHYSICIANS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Wednesday, October 23, 2019

Contact: Larry Pfeifer, Wisconsin Academy of Family Physicians; (262) 512-0606

### **WAFP Applauds Senate Health Committee Passage of Direct Primary Care Bill**

The Wisconsin Academy of Family Physicians applauds the Wisconsin State Senate Committee on Health and Human Services passage of Senate Bill 28 authored by Senator Chris Kapenga (R-Delafield) and Representative Joe Sanfelippo (R-New Berlin). The bill allows patients and physicians to enter into direct primary care agreements.

For a flat fee, patients have access to their doctor for a range of comprehensive primary care services over a specified period of time. Primary care services include regular checkups, preventive care, chronic disease management, care coordination, and urgent care.

In a direct primary care practice, patients have a personal relationship with their primary care physician, which diminishes the dependence on more expensive parts of the health care system, such as specialist care, urgent care, emergency rooms, and advanced imaging. According to the American Journal of Managed Care, individuals who receive direct primary care are 52% less likely to enter a hospital than patients with a traditional private practice.

The Wisconsin Academy of Family Physicians (WAFP) is a statewide association of Family Medicine Physicians. With nearly 3,000 members, WAFP members provide continuing and comprehensive primary care health care for individuals and families. Its mission is to promote excellence in health care, increase access, and improve the health of the citizens of Wisconsin.

###