



U.S. Senator Russ Feingold
Wisconsin

For Immediate Release – May 25, 2010

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FEINGOLD WORKS TO IMPROVE NURSING HOME CARE

Introduces Measure to Review Oversight of Nursing Homes

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Russ Feingold introduced legislation today that will look into ways to improve the quality of care that is delivered at our nation’s nursing homes. Congress first instituted landmark quality standards and oversight for nursing homes twenty-five years ago, but the Government Accountability Office has identified significant issues in nursing home oversight and enforcement of the quality standards. Feingold’s Improving the Quality of Care in Nursing Homes Act calls on the Institutes of Medicine to review the current state of care at nursing homes and the federal and state oversight system.

“After hearing from members of the Wisconsin Association of Homes and Services for the Aging, it is clear it’s time for a fundamental review of how far the nursing home field has come, and where we must improve to ensure our seniors are receiving the highest quality of care,” Feingold said. “This legislation will help bring nursing home quality assurance into the twenty-first century and ensure a better quality of life for current and future nursing home residents.”

The Wisconsin Association of Homes and Services for the Aging (WAHSA) reached out to Feingold with several concerns over nursing home oversight and enforcement of quality standards. Under Feingold’s legislation, the Institutes of Medicine will recommend ways that Congress can improve the law. WAHSA is a statewide membership organization of not-for-profit corporations principally serving seniors and persons with a disability.