

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Wisconsin Medical Society praises State's increased investment in mental health services

The statement below is attributable to Wisconsin Medical Society President Noel Deep, MD, FACP

"The Wisconsin Medical Society applauds the efforts of Governor Walker and the Department of Health Services (DHS) to increase reimbursement for outpatient mental and behavioral health services.

"Getting patients the care they need is paramount to addressing the devastating effects that mental and behavioral health conditions can have on patients and their families. The State's action to raise reimbursement for these services to that of our regional peers will help improve access to care and potentially could increase the workforce in this important area—both top priorities for the Society's Mental and Behavioral Health Task Force.

"We look forward to continuing to work with the Governor, the Legislature and DHS to address these and other issues surrounding mental and behavioral health."

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With over 12,500 members dedicated to the best interests of their patients, the <u>Wisconsin Medical Society</u> is the largest association of medical doctors in the state and a trusted source for health policy leadership since 1841.