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Independent Physicians Network Praises Joint Finance Committee Investment in Primary Care

(Madison, WI) – Independent Physicians Network (IPN) would like to thank the members of the state’s budget-writing Committee for their commitment to investing in core healthcare priorities by including a significant increase in Medicaid rates for primary care providers through rate increases for Evaluation and Management Procedure Codes.

“As with other healthcare providers, our members have seen the cost of services and their overhead costs rise significantly, said Dr. Hector Lopez, Board President and Medical Director of IPN. These increases will significantly help address challenges that exist for independent primary care providers and their ability to provide quality care for Wisconsin children and families in need of treatment.”

Michael Repka, CEO/Executive Director, Independent Physicians Network, praised the rate increases saying, “We are grateful for the committee’s action, which will result in increased access to preventive care for individuals who are most vulnerable. Increased access to primary care providers will help encourage people to utilize important preventive care services instead of costly alternatives.”

Both Dr. Lopez and Mr. Repka said they said look forward to working with legislators in both houses and the Governor on behalf of their members as the budget process continues.

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Independent Physicians Network (IPN) is a 39-year-old not-for-profit physician-managed medical delivery network that was started by pediatricians in response to Wisconsin’s changes to its Medicaid managed care program. It is composed of approximately 600 physicians, including almost 200 primary care physicians and close to 400 specialists and approximately 800 non-physician providers. All 1400+ IPN providers are independently operated and share in the mission to provide high-quality healthcare at a cost effective rate for their patients.