Lisa Vogel West 2884 Osmundsen Road Fitchburg, WI 53711

Group Insurance Board c/o Board Liaison Department of Employee Trust Funds PO Box 7931 Madison, WI 53707-7931

Dear Members of the Group Insurance Board,

As a concerned citizen, I am writing this letter to urge you to vote to remove the exclusion of procedures, services, and supplies related to surgery and sex hormones associated with gender reassignment for the plan year 2019. These are medically necessary services supported by all leading medical organizations in the United States. Research has demonstrated that access to these services results in improved individual and population health outcomes. Furthermore, these services represent a negligible increase in rate premiums and lead to long-term plan savings.

It is imperative for the health of the employee members and the financial success of the ETF for these medically necessary services to be covered in the plan 2019 and in subsequent years. Therefore, I urge you to vote to remove the exclusion of procedures, services, and supplies related to surgery and sex hormones associated with gender reassignment at the August  $22^{nd}$  meeting.

Sincerely,

Lísa Vogel West