



# WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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P.O. Box 7882 • Madison, WI 53707-7882

February 16, 2021

Group Insurance Board  
C/o Board Liaison  
Department of Employee Trust Funds  
PO Box 7931  
4822 Madison Yards Way  
Madison, WI 53707

RE: Third Party Administration of Health Savings Accounts, Section 125 Cafeteria Plan, Employee Reimbursement Accounts, and Commuter Fringe Benefits

DELIVERED ELECTRONICALLY

Dear Board Liaison,

We write today concerning an item on the Group Insurance Board's meeting agenda for Wednesday, February 17, 2021 regarding the state contract for Administrator for Health Savings Accounts, Section 125 Cafeteria Plan, Employee Reimbursement Accounts, and Commuter Fringe Benefits. We believe the Group Insurance Board should re-open this process to a Request for Proposal (RFP) to consider TASC as a strong, Wisconsin-based company to take on this contract.

As you know, the last RFP process resulted in the state entering into a contract with CYC on May 7, 2019 that runs through December 31, 2021. This contract allowed for two, two-year extensions which is up for a vote this Wednesday.

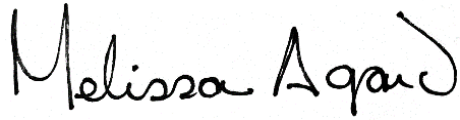
We believe this contract should be re-opened to an RFP due to the unprecedented nature of the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. Various sectors have been negatively impacted by the difficult economic circumstances brought on by increased unemployment and slowed economic growth. As elected officials representing Dane County we are committed to the local businesses who employ our constituents. TASC is one such company that makes our community a special place to live and raise a family.

It was also surprising to learn that during the RFP process in 2019, the local economic impact of retaining a company with a strong Wisconsin presence was not taken into account. Not only would TASC continue to maintain Wisconsin jobs, they have also recently increased their ability to hire remote workers all over our state.

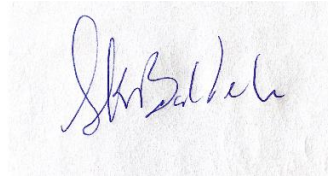
Today, we are asking that the Group Insurance Board consider bringing this contract back to an RFP so that TASC, a strong Wisconsin business who would serve our state employees well, can be considered as a vendor moving forward.

We would appreciate if you could share this letter with the members of the Group Insurance Board. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our offices if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melissa Agard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Melissa Agard  
State Senator  
16<sup>th</sup> Senate District

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Samba Baldeh". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S'.

Samba Baldeh  
State Representative  
48<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



**STATE OF WISCONSIN**  
**Department of Employee Trust Funds**  
Robert J. Conlin  
SECRETARY

Wisconsin Department  
of Employee Trust Funds  
PO Box 7931  
Madison WI 53707-7931  
1-877-533-5020 (toll free)  
Fax 608-267-4549  
etf.wi.gov

February 23, 2021

Senator Melissa Agard  
PO Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53708  
*-Sent via email-*

Representative Samba Baldeh  
PO Box 8952  
Madison, WI 53708  
*-Sent via email-*

Dear Senator Agard and Representative Baldeh,

I want to thank you for your letter regarding the Group Insurance Board's (Board) decision to extend the contract with ConnectYourCare (CYC) to administer Health Savings Accounts, Section 125 Cafeteria Plan, Employee Reimbursement Accounts, and Commuter Fringe Benefits. Upon receiving your letter, we immediately shared it with all Board members to ensure they were informed and ready to discuss the letter at the Wednesday, February 17, 2021 Board meeting. On two occasions during the Board meeting we directly addressed your letter and prompted the Board members to comment. In the end, the Board voted to exercise the two-year extension to the contract with CYC.

When considering partnering with a vendor, the Board issues a Request for Proposal (RFP). The RFP process is competitive and scored on multiple measures which are dependent on the services to be provided. While cost certainly is a factor in the decision, so is the ability to meet customer service standards, adhere to benefit program requirements, and abide by the Department of Employee Trust Funds' Terms and Conditions. Additionally, there is a factor in the RFP scoring that provides a benefit for potential vendors that are headquartered in Wisconsin.

From start to finish, the RFP writing and evaluation process took over 17 months to complete. The process takes a long time because the team assigned to the RFP painstakingly investigates every aspect of each potential vendor to ensure that the organization that is recommended to the Board will provide the best possible services to our membership. Upon the completion of the RFP evaluation process, CYC scored higher than all other vendor submissions which prompted the evaluation committee to recommend pursuing a contract with CYC, which the Board accepted.

Our experience with CYC throughout the onboarding, implementation, and operations of their first year of service has been exceptional. CYC is proactive in addressing potential

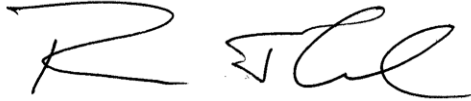
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issues, provides reliable service that meets our strict criteria, and has proven to be a helpful partner in administering complex programs in uncertain times. Based on our experience with CYC, Employee Trust Fund staff recommended to the Board to proceed with the two-year contract extension.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have any further questions, comments, or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me to schedule a teleconference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Conlin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a stylized "Conlin".

Robert J. Conlin Secretary