

**COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE
STATE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD**

The Honorable John Engler, Governor
and
Members of the State Administrative Board

A regular meeting of the **Finance and Claims** Committee was held at **11:00 a.m.** on **August 14, 2001**, those present being:

Chairperson: Julie Croll, representing Approved _____
State Treasurer Roberts

Member: Deborah Devine, representing Approved _____
Attorney General Granholm

Member: Brian DeBano, representing Approved _____
Governor John Engler

Others: Wes Van Malsen of the Department of Career Development;
Kristi Broessel of the Department of Community Health;
Sherry Bond, Kathy Jones, Arlene Oisten, of the
Department of Management and Budget; Helen Weber, Family
Independence Agency; Wendi Middleton, Office of Services
to the Aging (OSA); Jolie Good, of UAW-GM Local 652; Bob
Alexander, Victor H. Weipert, Jr. of Citizens for Better
Care; Jerry Crandall, MIRS; Robert Snell, Lansing State
Journal

The Finance and Claims Committee regular agenda was presented.

Ms. Good, representing UAW-GM Local 652, expressed concerns about any cuts made to the local ombudsman program for the care of residents in nursing homes. On behalf of the Local she requested that the Committee ensure that the \$261,000 for support of the local ombudsman be continued.

Mr. Weipert, on behalf of Citizens for Better Care (CBC) presented a letter detailing the concerns of how the State Long Term Care Ombudsman grant was bid and the concerns about the collection of social security numbers of clients to be served by the Ombudsman office. He questioned the legality of OSA to be able to collect the numbers as a requirement prior to giving services.

Ms. Middleton of OSA, stated that the Office had followed standard guidelines in the bidding process. She also explained that the Social Security numbers would not be required, but only requested of the recipients. The OSA and the grantee would be subject to all the federal rules and regulations in connection with securing the Social

Security numbers. A letter from the Department of Health and Human Services documented that with the required protections, the Social Security numbers could be collected in a data base.

Following discussion, Ms. Devine moved that the regular and supplemental agendas be recommended to the State Administrative Board for approval with the withdrawal of items in Section I, 2 (19) and 2 (20) at the request of the Department. The motion was supported by Mr. DeBano and unanimously adopted.

Ms. Croll adjourned the meeting.

At the State Administrative Board meeting of August 21, 2001, the Board approved item 2 (24) in Section I, contingent upon the deletion of the contract language requiring the Social Security number be collected prior to providing services under the Long Term Care Ombudsman program.