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**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ABC for Health: The Waiting Game?**

**Madison, WI** – “We’re in the period where we can catch our breath, assess what happened in the last two weeks, and be ready for when the Wisconsin legislature assembles next week,” said Brynne McBride, public interest attorney and assistant director of ABC for Health. On April 9, ABC for Health filmed an edition of its popular, online policy talk show, the HealthWatch WatchDog. “There was a flurry of activity this week as the reality of health reform—and what Wisconsin can do to build an infrastructure to accept elements of reform—became a reality,” continued McBride. Governor Doyle announced the creation of a new office, partnering the Department of Health Services and the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance. The BadgerCare Plus Basic bill got a closer look from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau, after a “fear” of impending passage. The Family Health Benefits Bill passed the Joint Finance Committee.

McBride reflected on the activities of the week and the bills that will be in front of the WI Assembly this April, in a web cast presentation from the ABC for Health Studio available to the media and the public at this link:

<http://96.60.62.171/mediasiteabc/Viewer/?peid=5ce7d862148642989f11c41216208d7e>

“We have yet to learn the details from our state officials on how each of the elements of reform slated for 2010 implementation, will play out. In the meantime, we can’t lose focus of keeping this process transparent and accessible. Coordinated advocates, community assisters, and ombudsmen can help.”

ABC for Health is a Wisconsin-based, nonprofit, public interest law firm dedicated to linking children and families, particularly those with special health care needs, to health care benefits and services. ABC for Health’s mission is to provide information, advocacy tools, legal services and expert support needed to obtain, maintain, and finance health care coverage and services.

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