

**Here are some frequently asked questions we've received about "Physician Ownership Partnerships." For additional information or to send a letter of support to your local elected official, please follow this link: <http://capwiz.com/physicianhospitals/issues/alert/?alertid=12651741>**

**Q: What will you do if policymakers outlaw physician ownership partnerships?**

**A:** We're hopeful they won't. We've seen how this type of partnership aligns interests between hospitals and participating physicians. It results in superior patient care.

**Q: Doesn't physician ownership in hospitals create a conflict of interest?**

**A:** Absolutely not. Physician ownership at PRMC has allowed us to improve quality care and outcomes for our patients. In fact, federal and state licensure requirements are in place to protect the interests of all parties, making this a winning arrangement.

**Q: Why are you endorsing a letter writing campaign to Sen. Nelson and Rep. Ginny Brown-Waite?**

**A:** Because they can help by becoming our advocates in this debate. PRMC has a history of successful physician ownership partnerships. Sen. Nelson serves on the Senate Finance Committee, while Rep. Brown-Waite serves on the Ways and Means Committee, both of which can positively affect the outcome of this issue.

**Q: Are you pushing physician ownership because times are tough economically?**

**A:** On the contrary. Physician ownership allows us to align our interests and ultimately control costs. At PRMC, the physicians' aggregate ownership stake is very small. No single physician at PRMC owns more than 2 percent of the entire organization and the vast majority own less than 1 percent each.

**Q: Will you settle for having PRMC grandfathered in?**

**A:** Yes, but we believe PRMC should be allowed to grow and evolve based on patient and community needs.

**Q: Do larger hospitals endorse physician ownership as well?**

**A:** Yes. In fact, this issue affects all hospitals, regardless of size.

**Q: Policymakers who oppose physician ownership claim that it inflates costs.**

**A:** We've heard that, but we've experienced the opposite. Physician ownership allows us to align our interests and ultimately control costs. In other communities, allowing physicians to own a small percentage of the hospital literally kept the hospital from closing.

**Q: Do you think you'll be able to convince Senator Nelson to support your cause?**

**A:** We hope so, but we need your help. Physician ownership partnerships allow both physicians and hospitals to focus on evidenced-based practices to improve the lives of those they serve.

If you want to help our cause by supporting our continued growth and service to our communities, please call or send an e-mail to Sen. Nelson's and Rep. Brown-Waite's offices and ask them to support physician ownership of hospitals. Follow this link for a pre-written letter that can easily be e-mailed to your elected officials.

<http://capwiz.com/physicianhospitals/issues/alert/?alertid=12651741>