



Biography of Michael Gelder

Michael Gelder was appointed Senior Health Care Policy Advisor to Governor Pat Quinn on June 15, 2009. Mr. Gelder advises the governor on all matters pertaining to national health reform, Medicaid, managed care, long term care reform, global budgeting, electronic medical records and health information exchange. He represents the governor's office with health care provider associations, advocates and other stakeholders. Mr. Gelder was appointed by the governor to serve as chairman of the health reform implementation task force established by Executive Order 1012 on July 29, 2010, and serves as Deputy Chief of Staff to appropriate state departments.

For the previous five-and-a-half-years, Mr. Gelder served as Deputy Director, Illinois Department on Aging. As Deputy, he was responsible for the Department's operational divisions that manage home and community based services, federal Older American Act programs, communications and training for the state's aging network, and pharmaceutical assistance for the elderly and disabled population. Mr. Gelder also led the agency's efforts to transform long-term care and rebalance state spending so frail older adults can live their final years with dignity in their homes and communities.

Prior to joining the Department on Aging, Mr. Gelder was principal of Michael A. Gelder and Associates, Inc. Established in 1977, the firm offered consultation, technical assistance, advocacy, and policy analysis to improve access, delivery, and quality of health care services for under-served populations. For the last 20 years Mr. Gelder has analyzed federal, state, and local health care policy issues, advised community organizations and social service agencies on legislative strategies and assisted them to establish financial management capabilities to maximize Medicaid and Medicare revenue.

Mr. Gelder holds a Master's Degree in Health Administration from Washington University, St. Louis and a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan. He began his career with the Illinois Department of Public Health in 1973, helping Chicago-area providers and community organizations increase participation in the state's early periodic screening, diagnosis and treatment program.