

HCP, INC.
Form 424B5
July 18, 2012

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Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)
Registration No. 333-161721

The information in this preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is not complete and may be changed. This preliminary prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus are not an offer to sell these securities and are not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state or other jurisdiction where the offer or sale thereof is not permitted.

**Subject to Completion
Preliminary Prospectus Supplement dated July 18, 2012**

**PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT
(To Prospectus dated September 4, 2009)**

\$

% Senior Notes due 2022

HCP, Inc.

We are offering \$ _____ aggregate principal amount of _____ % Senior Notes due 2022 (the "notes"). Unless redeemed prior to maturity, the notes will mature on _____, 2022. We will pay interest on the notes on _____ and _____ of each year, beginning _____, 2013.

We may redeem the notes, in whole or in part, at any time at the redemption prices described in this prospectus supplement.

The notes will not be listed on any securities exchange. Currently, there is no public market for the notes.

The notes will be our senior unsecured obligations and will rank equally with all of our existing and future unsecured senior indebtedness. The notes will be issued only in denominations of \$2,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

Investing in the notes involves risks. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page S-12 of this prospectus supplement and page 4 of the accompanying prospectus and the risk factors described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of the notes or determined that this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus is accurate or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	Public Offering Price(1)	Underwriting Discount	Proceeds (before expenses) to HCP(1)
Per note	%	%	%
Total	\$	\$	\$

(1) Plus accrued interest, if any, from July , 2012, if settlement occurs after that date.

We expect that delivery of the notes will be made to investors through the book-entry delivery system of The Depository Trust Company for the accounts of its participants, including Clearstream Banking, société anonyme and Euroclear Bank, S.A./N.V., as operator for the Euroclear System, against payment in New York, New York on or about July , 2012.

Joint Book-Running Managers

Goldman, Sachs & Co.

J.P. Morgan

Wells Fargo Securities

The date of this prospectus supplement is July , 2012.

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You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus and, if applicable, any free writing prospectus we may provide you in connection with this offering. We have not, and the underwriters have not, authorized anyone to provide you with information that is different. We are not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale of these securities is not permitted. This document may only be used where it is legal to sell these securities. You should assume that the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any free writing prospectus we may provide you in connection with this offering is accurate only as of their respective dates and that any information we have incorporated by reference is accurate only as of the date of the document incorporated by reference. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

This document is in two parts. The first is this prospectus supplement, which describes the specific terms of this offering. The second part, the accompanying prospectus, gives more general information, some of which may not apply to this offering. This prospectus supplement also adds to, updates and changes information contained in the accompanying prospectus. If the description of the offering varies between this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus, you should rely on the information in this prospectus supplement. The accompanying prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") using a shelf registration statement. Under the shelf registration process, from time to time, we may offer and sell debt securities, warrants or other rights, stock purchase contracts, units, common stock, preferred stock or depositary shares, or any combination thereof, in one or more offerings.

It is important that you read and consider all of the information contained in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in making your investment decision. You should also read and consider the information in the documents to which we have referred you in "Incorporation by Reference" on page S-4 of this prospectus supplement and "Where You Can Find More Information" on page 2 of the accompanying prospectus.

In this prospectus supplement, unless otherwise indicated herein or the context otherwise indicates the terms "HCP," "we," "us," "our" and the "Company" refer to HCP, Inc., together with its consolidated subsidiaries, except in the "Description of the Notes" or where it is clear from the context that the terms means only the issuer, HCP, Inc. Currency amounts in this prospectus supplement are stated in U.S. dollars.

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CAUTIONARY LANGUAGE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Statements in this prospectus supplement and the information incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus that are not historical factual statements are "forward-looking statements." We intend to have our forward-looking statements covered by the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and include this statement for purposes of complying with those provisions. Forward-looking statements include, among other things, statements regarding our and our officers' intent, belief or expectations as identified by the use of words such as "may," "will," "project," "expect," "believe," "intend," "anticipate," "seek," "forecast," "plan," "estimate," "could," "would," "should" and other comparable and derivative terms or the negatives thereof. In addition, we, through our officers, from time to time, make forward-looking oral and written public statements concerning our expected future operations, strategies, securities offerings, growth and investment opportunities, dispositions, capital structure changes, budgets and other developments. Readers are cautioned that, while forward-looking statements reflect our good faith belief and reasonable assumptions based upon current information, we can give no assurance that our expectations or forecasts will be attained. Therefore, readers should be mindful that forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and that they are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict. As more fully set forth herein under "Risk Factors" in this prospectus supplement and under "Part I, Item 1A. Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011, factors that may cause our actual results to differ materially from the expectations contained in the forward-looking statements include:

- (a) Changes in global, national and local economic conditions, including a prolonged period of weak economic growth;
- (b) Continued volatility in the capital markets, including changes in interest rates and the availability and cost of capital;
- (c) Our ability to manage our indebtedness level and changes in the terms of such indebtedness;
- (d) Changes in federal, state or local laws and regulations, including those affecting the healthcare industry that affect our costs of compliance or increase the costs, or otherwise affect the operations of our operators, tenants and borrowers;
- (e) The potential impact of future litigation matters, including the possibility of larger than expected litigation costs, adverse results and related developments;
- (f) Competition for tenants and borrowers, including with respect to new leases and mortgages and the renewal or rollover of existing leases;
- (g) Our ability to negotiate the same or better terms with new tenants or operators if existing leases are not renewed or we exercise our right to replace an existing operator or tenant upon default;
- (h) Availability of suitable properties to acquire at favorable prices and the competition for the acquisition and financing of those properties;
- (i) The financial, legal, regulatory and reputational difficulties of significant operators of our properties;
- (j) The risk that we may not be able to achieve the benefits of investments within expected time-frames or at all, or within expected cost projections;
- (k) The ability to obtain financing necessary to consummate acquisitions on favorable terms;
- (l)

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Changes in the reimbursement available to our operators, tenants and borrowers by governmental or private payors
(including the July 2011 Centers for Medicare & Medicaid)

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Services final rule reducing Medicare skilled nursing facility Prospective Payment System payments in fiscal year 2012 by 11.1% compared to fiscal year 2011) and other potential changes in Medicare and Medicaid payment levels, which, among other effects, could negatively impact the value of our approximately 10% equity interest in the operations of HCR ManorCare, Inc.;

- (m) The risks associated with our investments in joint ventures and unconsolidated entities, including our lack of sole decision-making authority and our reliance on our joint venture partners' financial condition and continued cooperation;
- (n) The ability of our operators, tenants and borrowers to conduct their respective businesses in a manner sufficient to maintain or increase their revenues and to generate sufficient income to make rent and loan payments to us and our ability to recover investments made, if applicable, in their operations; and
- (o) The financial weakness of some operators and tenants, including potential bankruptcies and downturns in their businesses, which results in uncertainties regarding our ability to continue to realize the full benefit of such operators' and/or tenants' leases.

Except as required by law, we undertake no, and hereby disclaim any, obligation to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, changed circumstances or otherwise.

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INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" information into this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document that HCP has filed separately with the SEC that contains that information. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. Information that HCP files with the SEC after the date of this prospectus supplement and that is incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement will automatically modify and supersede the information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus to the extent that the subsequently filed information modifies or supersedes the existing information. We incorporate by reference (other than any portions of any such documents that are not deemed "filed" under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act")) in accordance with the Exchange Act and applicable SEC rules):

our Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed on January 18, 2012 and our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on January 23, 2012, February 1, 2012, March 7, 2012, March 22, 2012, March 27, 2012 (as to item 8.01 only), March 29, 2012 (as to items 1.01 and 2.03 only), April 20, 2012, May 1, 2012 (as to item 5.07 only) and June 22, 2012;

our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2012;

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011;

those portions of our Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, filed on March 13, 2012, that are incorporated by reference into our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011; and

any future filings we make with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act until we sell all of the securities offered by this prospectus supplement.

You may request a copy of any of these filings at no cost to you by contacting us by mail, telephone or e-mail using the information set forth below:

Legal Department
HCP, Inc.
3760 Kilroy Airport Way, Suite 300
Long Beach, California 90806
(562) 733-5100
legaldept@hapi.com

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SUMMARY

The information below is a summary of the more detailed information included elsewhere or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. You should read carefully the following summary together with the more detailed information contained in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus, any free writing prospectus we may provide you in connection with this offering and the information incorporated by reference into those documents, including the risk factors described on page S-12 of this prospectus supplement and on page 4 of the accompanying prospectus and the "Risk Factors" section in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011. This summary is not complete and does not contain all of the information you should consider when making your investment decision.

Our Company

We invest primarily in real estate serving the healthcare industry in the United States. We are a Maryland corporation and were organized to qualify as a self-administered real estate investment trust, or REIT, in 1985. We are headquartered in Long Beach, California, with offices in Nashville, Tennessee and San Francisco, California. We acquire, develop, lease, manage and dispose of healthcare real estate, and provide financing to healthcare providers. Our portfolio is comprised of investments in the following five healthcare segments: (i) senior housing, (ii) post-acute/skilled nursing, (iii) life science, (iv) medical office and (v) hospital. We make investments within our healthcare segments using the following five investment products: (i) properties under lease, (ii) debt investments, (iii) developments and redevelopments, (iv) investment management and (v) investments in senior housing operations utilizing the structure permitted by the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (commonly referred as "RIDEA").

The delivery of healthcare services requires real estate and, as a result, tenants and operators depend on real estate, in part, to maintain and grow their businesses. We believe that the healthcare real estate market provides investment opportunities due to the following:

compelling demographics driving the demand for healthcare services;

specialized nature of healthcare real estate investing; and

ongoing consolidation of the fragmented healthcare real estate sector.

Our principal executive offices are located at 3760 Kilroy Airport Way, Suite 300, Long Beach, California 90806, and our telephone number is (562) 733-5100.

Recent Developments

On June 18, 2012, we announced that we are the lead investor in £175 million of senior unsecured notes (the "Four Seasons Notes") to be issued in connection with the acquisition of Four Seasons Health Care ("Four Seasons"). On June 28, 2012, we settled our purchase of the Four Seasons Notes with an aggregate par value of £138.5 million at a discount for £136.8 million (approximately \$214 million). The Four Seasons Notes represent a portion of the £825 million acquisition financing for Four Seasons, the largest elderly and specialist care provider in the United Kingdom with 445 care homes and 61 specialist care centers. The Four Seasons Notes have a fixed coupon rate of 12.25% per annum, with original issue discount resulting in a yield to maturity of 12.5%. Terra Firma, a leading European private equity firm, provided £345 million in equity financing, resulting in a loan-to-capitalization of 62% for the Four Seasons Notes. The Four Seasons Notes are subordinate to approximately £390 million of other debt, comprised of £350 million of senior secured debt and £40 million available to Four Seasons under a secured revolving credit facility. The Four Seasons Notes have an eight-year term and are non-callable for four years, subject to customary redemption

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provisions. The Four Seasons acquisition closed on July 12, 2012. The issuer of the Four Seasons Notes is Elli Investments Limited.

On June 22 and June 27, 2012, we issued an aggregate of 8.97 million shares of common stock at \$41.88 per share in an underwritten public offering. We used a portion of the net proceeds from that common stock offering to repay \$250 million of our senior unsecured notes at maturity on June 25, 2012.

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The Offering

The summary below describes the principal terms of the notes. Some of the terms and conditions described below are subject to important limitations and exceptions. See "Description of the Notes" for a more detailed description of the terms and conditions of the notes.

Issuer	HCP, Inc.
Securities Offered	\$ aggregate principal amount of % Senior Notes due , 2022.
Interest Payment Dates	Interest on the notes is payable semi-annually on and of each year, commencing , 2013.
Optional Redemption	At any time, we may redeem all or part of the notes at the redemption prices described in "Description of the Notes - Optional Redemption."
Covenants	The indenture governing the notes contains covenants that limit our ability to incur additional indebtedness, including unsecured and secured indebtedness, and we are required to, among other things, maintain a certain ratio of Annualized Consolidated EBITDA (as defined herein) to Annualized Interest Expense (as defined herein) and maintain Total Unencumbered Assets (as defined herein) of at least 150% of our Unsecured Debt (as defined herein). These covenants also restrict our ability to merge, consolidate or transfer all or substantially all of our assets. These covenants are subject to important exceptions and qualifications, which exceptions and qualifications are described under "Description of the Notes - Certain Covenants" in this prospectus supplement.
Ranking	The notes will be senior unsecured obligations of HCP, ranking equally in right of payment with other senior unsecured indebtedness of HCP from time to time outstanding. The notes will be effectively subordinated in right of payment to all of our future secured indebtedness, if any, to the extent of the collateral securing that indebtedness. The notes will also be effectively subordinated in right of payment to all existing and future indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries.
Use of Proceeds	The net proceeds from this offering will be approximately \$ million after deducting the underwriting discount and estimated offering expenses payable by us. We intend to use the net proceeds from the offering for general corporate purposes that may include the funding of future acquisitions or investments. See "Use of Proceeds" in this prospectus supplement.

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Risk Factors

You should carefully consider the information set forth in the section of this prospectus supplement entitled "Risk Factors" as well as the other information included in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and any free writing prospectus we may provide you in connection with this offering before deciding whether to invest in the notes.

No Listing of the Notes

The notes are a new issue of securities for which there is currently no established trading market. The underwriters have advised us that they currently intend to make a market in the notes. However, you should be aware that they are not obligated to make a market and may discontinue their market-making activities at any time without notice. As a result, a liquid market for the notes may not be available if you try to sell your notes. We do not intend to apply for a listing of the notes on any securities exchange or any automated dealer quotation system.

For additional information regarding the notes, see "Description of the Notes."

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SUMMARY HISTORICAL CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA OF HCP

The following table sets forth our summary consolidated financial data. You should read this information together with our consolidated financial statements, including the related notes, included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 and our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2012, from which such information has been derived, and which are incorporated by reference herein. Our unaudited financial data for the three months ended March 31, 2012 and 2011 has been prepared on the same basis as our annual consolidated financial statements and includes all adjustments, consisting of only normal recurring adjustments, necessary for the fair presentation of this data in all material respects. The results for any interim period are not necessarily indicative of the results of operations to be expected for a full fiscal year. The following data is presented on a historical basis.

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	Three Months Ended		Year Ended December 31,		
	March 31,		2011	2010	2009
	2012	2011	2011	2010	2009
	(in thousands, except per share data)				
	(unaudited)				
Revenues:					
Rental and related revenues	\$ 244,335	\$ 253,081	\$ 1,015,867	\$ 917,579	\$ 876,339
Tenant recoveries	22,650	23,444	92,259	89,012	89,457
Resident fees and services	36,179	2,505	50,619	32,596	
Income from direct financing leases	154,535	13,395	464,704	49,438	51,495
Interest income	819	38,096	99,864	160,163	124,146
Investment management fee income	493	607	2,073	4,666	5,312
Total revenues	459,011	331,128	1,725,386	1,253,454	1,146,749
Costs and expenses:					
Depreciation and amortization	88,241	91,182	356,834	311,218	315,947
Interest expense	104,568	108,576	419,337	288,650	298,869
Operating	67,349	46,845	220,172	210,202	183,296
General and administrative	20,102	21,952	96,150	83,048	77,999
Litigation settlement and provision			125,000		101,973
Impairments (recoveries)			15,400	(11,900)	75,389
Total costs and expenses	280,260	268,555	1,232,893	881,218	1,053,473
Other income, net	436	10,309	12,338	15,818	7,768
Income before income tax expense and equity income from and impairments of investments in unconsolidated joint ventures					
	179,187	72,882	504,831	388,054	101,044
Income taxes	709	(37)	(1,249)	(412)	(1,910)
Equity income from unconsolidated joint ventures	13,675	798	46,750	4,770	3,511
Impairments of investments in unconsolidated joint ventures				(71,693)	
Income from continuing operations	193,571	73,643	550,332	320,719	102,645
Discontinued operations:					
Income before impairments and gain on sales of real estate, net of income taxes	137	341	1,055	3,751	6,310
Impairments					(125)
Gain on sales of real estate, net of income taxes	2,856		3,107	19,925	37,321
Total discontinued operations	2,993	341	4,162	23,676	43,506
Net income	196,564	73,984	554,494	344,395	146,151
Noncontrolling interests' share in earnings	(3,184)	(3,891)	(15,603)	(13,686)	(14,461)
Net income attributable to HCP, Inc.	193,380	70,093	538,891	330,709	131,690
Preferred stock dividends	(17,006)	(5,283)	(21,130)	(21,130)	(21,130)
Participating securities' share in earnings	(1,117)	(935)	(2,459)	(2,081)	(1,491)
Net income applicable to common shares	\$ 175,257	\$ 63,875	\$ 515,302	\$ 307,498	\$ 109,069

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	Three Months Ended March 31,		Year Ended December 31,		
	2012	2011	2011	2010	2009
	(in thousands, except per share data)				
	(unaudited)				
Basic earnings per common share:					
Continuing operations	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.17	\$ 1.28	\$ 0.93	\$ 0.24
Discontinued operations	0.01		0.01	0.08	0.16
Net income applicable to common shares	\$ 0.43	\$ 0.17	\$ 1.29	\$ 1.01	\$ 0.40
Diluted earnings per common share:					
Continuing operations	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.17	\$ 1.28	\$ 0.92	\$ 0.24
Discontinued operations	0.01		0.01	0.08	0.16
Net income applicable to common shares	\$ 0.43	\$ 0.17	\$ 1.29	\$ 1.00	\$ 0.40
Weighted average shares used to calculate earnings per common share:					
Basic	410,018	372,116	398,446	305,574	274,216
Diluted	411,661	373,960	400,218	306,900	274,631
Dividends declared per common share	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.48	\$ 1.92	\$ 1.86	\$ 1.84

	Three Months Ended March 31,		Year Ended December 31,		
	2012	2011	2011	2010	2009
	(in thousands)				
	(unaudited)				
Comprehensive income:					
Net income	\$ 196,564	\$ 73,984	\$ 554,494	\$ 344,395	\$ 146,151
Other comprehensive income (loss):					
Change in net unrealized gains (losses) on securities:					
Unrealized gains (losses)	1,304		(5,396)	937	82,816
Reclassification adjustment realized in net income			5,396	(12,742)	(4,197)
Change in net unrealized gains (losses) on cash flow hedges:					
Unrealized gains (losses)	276	327	(4,367)	(996)	179
Reclassification adjustment realized in net income	89	(1,313)	(1,033)	1,453	781
Change in Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan obligation	45	34	(495)	43	(521)
Foreign currency translation adjustment	202	181	(450)	202	(30)
Total other comprehensive income (loss)	1,916	(771)	(6,345)	(11,103)	79,028
Total comprehensive income	198,480	73,213	548,149	333,292	225,179
Total comprehensive income attributable to noncontrolling interest	(3,184)	(3,891)	(15,603)	(13,686)	(14,461)
Total comprehensive income attributable to HCP, Inc.	\$ 195,296	\$ 69,322	\$ 532,546	\$ 319,606	\$ 210,718

As of March 31, 2012

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(in thousands)

(unaudited)

Consolidated Balance Sheet Data:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$	347,425
Total assets		17,725,319
Total liabilities		8,415,357
Total equity		9,309,962

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RISK FACTORS

Before purchasing the notes, you should consider carefully the information under the heading "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011, in the accompanying prospectus and the following factors, each of which could materially adversely affect our operating results and financial condition. You should also carefully consider the other information included in this prospectus supplement, the accompanying prospectus and other information incorporated by reference herein. Each of the risks described in our Form 10-K and the accompanying prospectus and below could result in a decrease in the value of the notes and your investment therein. Although we have tried to discuss what we believe are key risk factors, please be aware that other risks may prove to be important in the future. New risks may emerge at any time, and we cannot predict those risks or estimate the extent to which they may affect our financial performance or the value of the notes. The information contained, and incorporated by reference, in this prospectus supplement and in the accompanying prospectus includes forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties, and we refer you to the "Cautionary Language Regarding Forward-Looking Statements" section in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus.

Risks Related to HCP

We may become more leveraged.

As of March 31, 2012, we had approximately \$7.7 billion of outstanding indebtedness. After giving effect to the sale of \$ million of notes offered hereby, we would have had approximately \$ billion of outstanding indebtedness. Our unsecured revolving credit facility and the indenture governing our outstanding notes permit us to incur substantial additional debt, and we may borrow additional funds, which may include secured borrowings. A high level of indebtedness would require us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to the payment of our indebtedness, thereby reducing the funds available to implement our business strategy and to make distributions to stockholders. A high level of indebtedness could also have the following consequences:

potential limits on our ability to adjust rapidly to changing market conditions and vulnerability in the event of a downturn in general economic conditions or in the real estate and/or healthcare industries;

potential impairment of our ability to obtain additional financing for our business strategy; and

potential downgrade in the rating of our debt securities by one or more rating agencies, which could have the effect of, among other things, increasing our cost of borrowing.

In addition, from time to time we mortgage our properties to secure payment of indebtedness. If we are unable to meet our mortgage payments, then the encumbered properties could be foreclosed upon or transferred to the mortgagee with a consequent loss of income and asset value. A foreclosure on one or more of our properties could have a material adverse effect on us.

Our business operations may not generate the cash needed to service our indebtedness.

Our ability to make payments on our indebtedness, including these notes, and to fund planned capital expenditures will depend on our ability to generate cash in the future. We cannot assure you that our business will generate sufficient cash flow from operations or that future borrowings will be available to us in an amount sufficient to enable us to pay our indebtedness, including these notes, or to fund our other liquidity needs.

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Risks Related to the Notes

Although these notes are referred to as "senior notes," they will be effectively subordinated to our secured indebtedness and all liabilities of our subsidiaries.

The notes are unsecured and therefore will be effectively subordinated to any secured indebtedness we may incur to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness. In the event of a bankruptcy or similar proceeding involving us, our assets which serve as collateral will be available to satisfy the obligations under any secured indebtedness before any payments are made on the notes.

In addition, most of our assets are held through direct or indirect subsidiaries and, accordingly, the notes will be effectively subordinated to all liabilities of our subsidiaries including any guarantees of new credit facilities that may be issued by our subsidiaries. Our subsidiaries and general and limited partnerships will not guarantee the notes. In the event of a bankruptcy, liquidation or reorganization of any of our subsidiaries or partnerships, creditors of our subsidiaries and partnerships will generally be entitled to payment of their claims from the assets of those subsidiaries and partnerships before any assets are made available for distribution to us, except to the extent we may also have a claim as a creditor.

An active trading market may not develop for the notes.

Prior to this offering, there was no existing trading market for the notes. Although the underwriters have informed us that they currently intend to make a market in the notes after we complete the offering, they have no obligation to do so and may discontinue making a market at any time without notice. We do not intend to apply for listing of the notes on any securities exchange.

The liquidity of any market for the notes will depend on a number of factors, including:

the number of holders of the notes;

our performance;

the market for similar securities;

the interest of securities dealers in making a market in the notes; and

prevailing interest rates.

We cannot assure you that an active market for the notes will develop or, if developed, that it will continue.

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We estimate that the net proceeds from this offering, after deducting the underwriting discount and estimated offering expenses payable by us, will be approximately \$ million. We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering for general corporate purposes that may include the funding of future acquisitions or investments.

RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS

The following table sets forth our ratios of earnings to fixed charges for the periods indicated and our ratios of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends for the periods indicated. In computing the ratios of earnings to fixed charges, earnings have been based on consolidated income from continuing operations before fixed charges (exclusive of capitalized interest). Fixed charges consist of interest on debt, including amounts capitalized, an estimate of interest in rental expense, and interest expense related to the guaranteed debt of the partnerships and limited liability companies in which we hold an interest. In computing the ratios of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends, preferred stock dividends consist of dividends on our 7.25% Series E Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock and 7.10% Series F Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock. In April 2012, we redeemed all of our 7.25% Series E Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock and 7.10% Series F Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock.

	Three Months Ended March 31,		Year Ended December 31,			
	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges	2.51	2.03	2.13	1.21	1.50	1.26
Ratio of Earnings to Combined Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends	2.18	1.94	1.99	1.14	1.42	1.20

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DESCRIPTION OF THE NOTES

Please read the following information concerning the notes in conjunction with the statements under "Description of the Debt Securities We May Offer" in the accompanying prospectus, which the following information supplements and, if there are any inconsistencies, supersedes. The following description is not complete. The notes will be issued under the Indenture, dated as of September 1, 1993, related to our senior unsecured debt, that we have entered into with The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as successor trustee to The Bank of New York, as trustee (the "Base Indenture"), as supplemented by the Supplemental Indenture dated as of January 24, 2011 (the "Supplemental Indenture") and an Officers' Certificate to be dated July , 2012 (the "Officers' Certificate"). In this prospectus supplement, we refer to the Base Indenture, as supplemented by the Supplemental Indenture and Officers' Certificate, as the "Indenture." The Indenture is described in the accompanying prospectus and is filed as an exhibit to the registration statement under which the notes are being offered and sold. As used in this section, references to "HCP," the "Company," "we," "us," or "our" do not include any current or future subsidiary of, or other entity controlled by, HCP.

General

The notes will be initially limited to \$ aggregate principal amount and will mature on , 2022. The notes will constitute part of the senior unsecured debt of HCP and will be equal in right of payment to any other existing or future senior unsecured obligations of HCP. The notes have covenants and events of default that vary from existing senior unsecured notes of HCP that were issued prior to January 2011. The Indenture does not limit the aggregate principal amount of debt securities that HCP may issue under the Indenture. The notes will not be subject to any mandatory redemption or sinking fund payments.

Interest Payments and Maturity

The entire principal amount of the notes will mature and become due and payable, together with any accrued and unpaid interest, on , 2022. The notes will bear interest at the annual rate set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement beginning on July , 2012. The interest will be paid semi-annually on and of each year, beginning on , 2013, to the person in whose name the note is registered at the close of business on the date that is 15 calendar days prior to such date, whether or not such date is a business day. We will compute the amount of interest payable on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months.

If any interest payment date or any maturity date falls on a day that is not a business day, the required payment of principal and/or interest will be made on the next succeeding business day as if made on the date such payment was due, and no interest will accrue on such payment for the period from and after such interest payment date or maturity date, as the case may be, to the date of such payment on the next succeeding business day.

Certain Covenants

The following description supersedes and replaces the section entitled "Description of the Debt Securities We May Offer Covenants Limitation on Borrowing Money" in the accompanying prospectus.

Limitations on incurrence of debt

HCP shall not, and shall not permit any of its Subsidiaries to, Incur any Debt if, immediately after giving effect to the Incurrence of such additional Debt and any other Debt Incurred since the end of the Latest Completed Quarter and the application of the net proceeds therefrom, the aggregate principal amount of all outstanding Debt would exceed 60% of the sum of (without duplication) (i) Total Assets as of the end of the Latest Completed Quarter and (ii) the purchase price of any Real

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Estate Assets or mortgages receivable acquired or to be acquired in exchange for proceeds of any securities offering, and the amount of any securities offering proceeds received (to the extent such proceeds were not used to acquire Real Estate Assets or mortgages receivable or to reduce Debt), since the end of the Latest Completed Quarter.

HCP shall not, and shall not permit any of its Subsidiaries to, Incur any Secured Debt if, immediately after giving effect to the Incurrence of such additional Secured Debt and any other Secured Debt Incurred since the end of the Latest Completed Quarter and the application of the net proceeds therefrom, the aggregate principal amount of all outstanding Secured Debt would exceed 40% of the sum of (without duplication) (i) Total Assets as of the end of the Latest Completed Quarter and (ii) the purchase price of any Real Estate Assets or mortgages receivable acquired or to be acquired in exchange for proceeds of any securities offering, and the amount of any securities offering proceeds received (to the extent such proceeds were not used to acquire Real Estate Assets or mortgages receivable or to reduce Debt), since the end of the Latest Completed Quarter.

HCP shall not, and shall not permit any of its Subsidiaries to, Incur any Debt if, immediately after giving effect to the Incurrence of such additional Debt and any other Debt Incurred since the end of the Latest Completed Quarter and the application of the net proceeds therefrom, the ratio of Annualized Consolidated EBITDA to Annualized Interest Expense for the Latest Completed Quarter would be less than 1.50 to 1.00 on a pro forma basis and calculated on the assumption (without duplication) that:

- (1) the additional Debt and any other Debt Incurred by HCP or any of its Subsidiaries since the first day of the Latest Completed Quarter to the date of determination, which was outstanding at the date of determination, had been Incurred at the beginning of that period and continued to be outstanding throughout that period, and the application of the net proceeds of such Debt, including to refinance other Debt, had occurred at the beginning of such period; provided that in determining the amount of Debt so Incurred, the amount of Debt under any revolving credit facility shall be computed based upon the average daily balance of such Debt during such period;
- (2) the repayment or retirement of any other Debt repaid or retired by HCP or any of its Subsidiaries since the first day of the Latest Completed Quarter to the date of determination had occurred at the beginning of that period; provided that in determining the amount of Debt so repaid or retired, the amount of Debt under any revolving credit facility shall be computed based upon the average daily balance of such Debt during such period; and
- (3) in the case of any acquisition or disposition of any asset or group of assets (including, without limitation, by merger, or stock or asset purchase or sale) or the placement of any assets in service or removal of any assets from service by HCP or any of its Subsidiaries since the first day of the Latest Completed Quarter to the date of determination, the acquisition, disposition, placement in service or removal from service and any related repayment or refinancing of Debt had occurred as of the first day of such period, with the appropriate adjustments to Annualized Consolidated EBITDA and Annualized Interest Expense with respect to the acquisition, disposition, placement in service or removal from service being included in that pro forma calculation.

Maintenance of total unencumbered assets

HCP and its Subsidiaries shall maintain at all times Total Unencumbered Assets of not less than 150% of the aggregate principal amount of all outstanding Unsecured Debt.

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Certain Definitions

"*Annualized Consolidated EBITDA*" means, for any quarter, the product of Consolidated EBITDA for such period of time multiplied by four.

"*Annualized Interest Expense*" means, for any quarter, the Interest Expense for that quarter multiplied by four, *provided* that any nonrecurring item, as determined by HCP in good faith, that is included in Interest Expense will be removed from such Interest Expense before such multiplication.

"*Consolidated EBITDA*" means, for any period of time, the net income (loss) of HCP and its Subsidiaries, determined on a consolidated basis in accordance with GAAP for such period, before deductions for (without duplication):

- (1) Interest Expense;
- (2) taxes;
- (3) depreciation, amortization, and all other non-cash items, as determined reasonably and in good faith by HCP, deducted in arriving at net income (loss);
- (4) extraordinary items, including impairment charges;
- (5) non-recurring items or other unusual items, as determined reasonably and in good faith by HCP (including, without limitation, all prepayment penalties and all costs or fees incurred in connection with any debt financing or amendment thereto, acquisition, disposition, recapitalization or similar transaction (regardless of whether such transaction is completed));
- (6) noncontrolling interests;
- (7) income or expense attributable to transactions involving derivative instruments that do not qualify for hedge accounting in accordance with GAAP; and
- (8) gains or losses on dispositions of depreciable real estate investments, property valuation losses and impairment charges.

For purposes of calculating Consolidated EBITDA, all amounts shall be as determined reasonably and in good faith by HCP, and in accordance with GAAP except to the extent that GAAP is not applicable with respect to the determination of all non-cash and non-recurring items.

"*Consolidated Financial Statements*" means, with respect to any Person, collectively, the consolidated financial statements and notes to those financial statements, of that Person and its subsidiaries prepared in accordance with GAAP.

"*Debt*" means, as of any date (without duplication), all indebtedness and liabilities for borrowed money, secured or unsecured, of HCP and its Subsidiaries, including mortgages and other notes payable (including the notes to the extent outstanding from time to time), but excluding any indebtedness, including mortgages and other notes payable, which is secured by cash, cash equivalents, or marketable securities or defeased (it being understood that cash collateral shall be deemed to include cash deposited with a trustee with respect to third party indebtedness), Intercompany Debt and all liabilities associated with customary exceptions to non-recourse indebtedness, such as for fraud, misapplication of funds, environmental indemnities, voluntary bankruptcy, collusive involuntary bankruptcy and other similar exceptions. It is understood that Debt shall not include any redeemable equity interest in HCP.

"*GAAP*" means generally accepted accounting principles in the United States, consistently applied, as in effect from time to time.

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"*Incur*" means, with respect to any Debt or other obligation of any Person, to create, assume, guarantee or otherwise become liable in respect of such Debt or other obligation, and "Incurrence" and "Incurred" have the meanings correlative to the foregoing.

"*Intercompany Debt*" means, as of any date, Debt to which the only parties are HCP and any of its Subsidiaries as of such date; *provided*, however, that with respect to any such Debt of which HCP is the borrower, such Debt is subordinate in right of payment to the notes.

"*Interest Expense*" means, for any period of time, the aggregate amount of interest recorded in accordance with GAAP for such period by HCP and its Subsidiaries, but *excluding* (i) interest reserves funded from the proceeds of any loan, (ii) prepayment penalties, (iii) amortization of deferred financing costs, and (iv) non-cash swap ineffectiveness charges, in all cases as reflected in the applicable Consolidated Financial Statements.

"*Latest Completed Quarter*" means, as of any date, the then most recently ended fiscal quarter of HCP for which Consolidated Financial Statements of HCP have been completed, it being understood that at any time when HCP is subject to the informational requirements of the Exchange Act, and in accordance therewith files annual and quarterly reports with the SEC, the term "Latest Completed Quarter" shall be deemed to refer to the fiscal quarter covered by HCP's most recently filed Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, or, in the case of the last fiscal quarter of the year, HCP's Annual Report on Form 10-K.

"*Lien*" means (without duplication) any lien, mortgage, trust deed, deed of trust, deed to secure debt, pledge, security interest, assignment for collateral purposes, deposit arrangement, or other security agreement, excluding any right of setoff but including, without limitation, any conditional sale or other title retention agreement, any financing lease having substantially the same economic effect as any of the foregoing, and any other like agreement granting or conveying a security interest; *provided* that, for purposes hereof, "Lien" shall not include any mortgage that has been defeased by HCP or any of its Subsidiaries in accordance with the provisions thereof through the deposit of cash, cash equivalents or marketable securities (it being understood that cash collateral shall be deemed to include cash deposited with a trustee with respect to third party indebtedness).

"*Person*" means any individual, corporation, partnership, joint venture, association, joint-stock company, trust, unincorporated organization, limited liability company or government or other entity.

"*Real Estate Assets*" means, as of any date, the real estate assets of such Person and its Subsidiaries on such date, on a consolidated basis determined in accordance with GAAP.

"*Secured Debt*" means, as of any date, that portion of the aggregate principal amount of all outstanding Debt of HCP and its Subsidiaries as of that date that is secured by a Lien on properties or other assets of HCP or any of its Subsidiaries.

"*Subsidiary*" means, with respect to any Person, a corporation, partnership association, joint venture, trust, limited liability company or other business entity which is required to be consolidated with such Person in accordance with GAAP.

"*Total Assets*" means, as of any date, the consolidated total assets of HCP and its Subsidiaries, as such amount would appear on a consolidated balance sheet of HCP prepared as of such date in accordance with GAAP. "Total Assets" shall include Undepreciated Real Estate Assets and all other assets but shall exclude goodwill, and shall include the proceeds of the Debt or Secured Debt to be Incurred.

"*Total Unencumbered Assets*" means, as of any date, Undepreciated Real Estate Assets of HCP and its Subsidiaries that are not subject to any Lien which secures Debt of any of HCP and its Subsidiaries plus, without duplication, loan loss reserves relating thereto, accumulated depreciation thereon, plus all other assets of HCP and its Subsidiaries as all such amounts would appear on a consolidated balance

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sheet of HCP prepared as of such date in accordance with GAAP plus the proceeds of the Debt or Secured Debt to be Incurred; provided, however, that "Total Unencumbered Assets" does not include net real estate investments under unconsolidated joint ventures of HCP and its Subsidiaries and does not include goodwill.

"*Undepreciated Real Estate Assets*" means, as of any date, the amount of real estate assets valued at original cost plus capital improvements.

"*Unsecured Debt*" means, as of any date, that portion of the aggregate principal amount of all outstanding Debt of HCP and its Subsidiaries as of that date that is not Secured Debt.

Events of Default

The following description supersedes and replaces the section entitled "Description of the Debt Securities We May Offer Events of Default" in the accompanying prospectus.

The following are events of default under the Indenture with respect to the notes:

failure to pay principal of or any premium on the notes when due;

failure to pay any interest on the notes when due, continued for 30 days;

failure to deposit any sinking fund payment when due in respect of the notes;

failure to perform any other of our covenants or warranties in the Indenture (other than a covenant or warranty included in the Indenture solely for the benefit of one or more series of debt securities other than that series), continued for 60 days after written notice by the trustee to us or by the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding notes to us and the trustee as provided in the Indenture;

certain events in bankruptcy, insolvency, conservatorship, receivership or reorganization of us; and

an acceleration of the date on which any of our other indebtedness evidenced by any mortgage, indenture or instrument shall be due and payable, in an aggregate principal amount exceeding \$50,000,000 and such acceleration is not rescinded or annulled within 10 days after written notice is given by the trustee to us or by the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding notes to us and the trustee as provided in the Indenture.

If an event of default with respect to the notes occurs and is continuing, either the trustee or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding notes may declare the principal amount of all the outstanding notes to be due and payable immediately. At any time after the declaration of acceleration with respect to the notes has been made, but before a judgment or decree based on acceleration has been obtained, the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding notes may, under certain circumstances, rescind and annul the acceleration.

The Indenture provides that the trustee will, within 90 days after the occurrence of a default with respect to the notes, give to the holders of the outstanding notes notice of all uncured defaults known to it. Except in the case of default in the payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest, if any, on any notes, the trustee shall be protected in withholding the notice if the trustee in good faith determines that the withholding of the notice is in the interest of the holders of outstanding notes.

The Indenture provides that, subject to the duty of the trustee during the continuance of an event of default to act with the required standard of care, the trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the Indenture at the request or direction of any of the holders, unless the holders shall have offered to the trustee reasonable indemnity. Subject to such provisions for the indemnification of the trustee and subject to certain other limitations, the holders of a majority in

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aggregate principal amount of the outstanding notes will have the right to direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceedings for any remedy available to the trustee, or exercising any trust or power conferred on the trustee, with respect to the notes.

We are required to furnish to the trustee annually a statement as to our performance of certain obligations under the Indenture and as to any default in our performance.

Optional Redemption

We may redeem all or part of the notes at any time at our option at a redemption price equal to the greater of: (1) 100% of the principal amount of the notes to be redeemed, or (2) the sum of the present values of the remaining scheduled payments of principal and interest thereon (exclusive of interest accrued to, but excluding, the date of redemption) discounted to the date of redemption on a semi-annual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the applicable treasury rate plus _____ basis points, plus accrued and unpaid interest on the amount being redeemed to, but excluding, the date of redemption; *provided, however*, that if we redeem the notes 90 days or fewer prior to their maturity date, the redemption price will equal 100% of the principal amount of the notes to be redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest on the amount being redeemed to, but excluding, the date of redemption.

"*Treasury Rate*" means, with respect to any redemption date:

the yield, under the heading which represents the average for the immediately preceding week, appearing in the most recently published statistical release designated "H.15(519)" or any successor publication which is published weekly by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and which establishes yields on actively traded U.S. Treasury securities adjusted to constant maturity under the caption "Treasury Constant Maturities," for the maturity corresponding to the Comparable Treasury Issue (if no maturity is within three months before or after the remaining life (as defined below), yields for the two published maturities most closely corresponding to the Comparable Treasury Issue will be determined and the Treasury Rate will be interpolated or extrapolated from such yields on a straight line basis, rounding to the nearest month); or

if such release (or any successor release) is not published during the week preceding the calculation date or does not contain such yields, the rate per annum equal to the semi-annual equivalent yield to maturity of the Comparable Treasury Issue, calculated using a price for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed as a percentage of its principal amount) equal to the Comparable Treasury Price for such redemption date.

The Treasury Rate will be calculated by the Independent Investment Banker on the third business day preceding the date fixed for redemption.

"*Comparable Treasury Issue*" means the U.S. Treasury security selected by an Independent Investment Banker as having a maturity comparable to the remaining term ("remaining life") of the notes to be redeemed that would be utilized, at the time of selection and in accordance with customary financial practice, in pricing new issues of corporate debt securities of comparable maturity to the remaining term of such notes.

"*Comparable Treasury Price*" means (1) the average of three Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations for such redemption date, after excluding the highest and lowest Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, or (2) if the Independent Investment Banker obtains fewer than three such Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations, the average of all such quotations.

"*Independent Investment Banker*" means one of the Reference Treasury Dealers appointed by us to act as the "Independent Investment Banker."

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"*Reference Treasury Dealers*" means each of Goldman, Sachs & Co., J.P. Morgan Securities LLC and a Primary Treasury Dealer (as defined herein) selected by Wells Fargo Securities, LLC and their respective successors; *provided, however*, that if any of the foregoing shall cease to be a primary U.S. Government securities dealer in the United States (a "Primary Treasury Dealer"), we shall substitute therefor another nationally recognized investment banking firm that is a Primary Treasury Dealer.

"*Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations*" means, with respect to each Reference Treasury Dealer and any redemption date, the average, as determined by the Independent Investment Banker, of the bid and asked prices for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed in each case as a percentage of its principal amount) quoted in writing to the Independent Investment Banker at 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on the third business day preceding such redemption date.

We may redeem the notes in increments of \$1,000. If we are redeeming less than all of the notes, the trustee will select the notes to be redeemed using a method it considers fair and appropriate. We will cause notices of redemption to be mailed by first-class mail at least 30 but not more than 60 days before the redemption date to each holder of notes to be redeemed at its registered address.

If any of the notes are to be redeemed in part only, the notice of redemption that relates to the relevant note will state the portion of the principal amount thereof to be redeemed. We will issue a note in principal amount equal to the unredeemed portion of the original note in the name of the holder thereof upon cancellation of the original note. Any notes called for redemption will become due on the date fixed for redemption. On or after the redemption date, interest will cease to accrue on the notes or portions of them called for redemption.

Forms and Denominations

The notes will be issued as permanent global securities in the name of a nominee of the Depository Trust Company and will be available only in book-entry form. See "Legal Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance Book-Entry Owners" in the accompanying prospectus. The notes are available for purchase only in denominations of \$2,000 and in integral multiples of \$1,000 in excess thereof.

Further Issuances

We may, without the consent of the holders of the notes, create and issue additional notes ranking equally with the notes offered by this prospectus supplement in all respects, including having the same CUSIP number, so that such additional notes would be consolidated and form a single series with the notes offered hereby and would have the same terms as to status, redemption or otherwise as the notes offered hereby. No additional notes may be issued if an Event of Default has occurred and is continuing with respect to the notes.

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SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

This discussion is a supplement to, and is intended to be read together with, the discussion in the accompanying prospectus under the heading "Material United States Federal Income Tax Considerations." This summary of material federal income tax considerations is for general information only and is not tax advice. This discussion does not purport to deal with all aspects of taxation that may be relevant to particular holders of our notes in light of their personal investment or tax circumstances. Notwithstanding anything contained in the accompanying prospectus to the contrary, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP is our counsel with respect to this offering.

EACH PROSPECTIVE HOLDER IS ADVISED TO CONSULT HIS OR HER TAX ADVISOR REGARDING THE SPECIFIC FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL AND FOREIGN INCOME AND OTHER TAX CONSEQUENCES TO HIM OR HER OF ACQUIRING, HOLDING, EXCHANGING OR OTHERWISE DISPOSING OF OUR NOTES AND OF POTENTIAL CHANGES IN APPLICABLE TAX LAWS.

Legislative or Other Actions Affecting REITs and Holders of Notes

The present federal income tax treatment of REITs may be modified, possibly with retroactive effect, by legislative, judicial or administrative action at any time. The REIT rules, as well as all federal tax laws, are constantly under review by persons involved in the legislative process and by the Internal Revenue Service and the U.S. Treasury Department which may result in statutory changes as well as revisions to regulations and interpretations. On December 17, 2010, President Obama signed into law the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010, which delayed a scheduled increase in the maximum tax rates applicable to individual taxpayers until 2013. No assurance can be given as to whether, or in what form, any other proposals affecting REITs or holders of their debt instruments will be enacted. Changes to the federal tax laws and interpretations thereof could adversely affect an investment in our notes.

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UNDERWRITING

Under the terms and subject to the conditions contained in an underwriting agreement, we have agreed to sell to the underwriters named below for whom Goldman, Sachs & Co., J.P. Morgan Securities LLC and Wells Fargo Securities, LLC are acting as joint book-running managers and as representatives of the underwriters, the following principal amounts of the notes shown in the following table:

Underwriters	Principal Amount of Notes
Goldman, Sachs & Co.	\$
J.P. Morgan Securities LLC	
Wells Fargo Securities, LLC	
Total	\$

The underwriting agreement provides that the underwriters are obligated to purchase all of the notes if any are purchased. The underwriting agreement also provides that if an underwriter defaults, the purchase commitments of non-defaulting underwriters may be increased or the offering of notes may be terminated.

The underwriters propose to offer the notes initially at the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement. Any notes sold by the underwriters to securities dealers may be sold at discounts from the public offering price of up to % of the principal amount of the notes. Any such securities dealers may resell any notes purchased from the underwriters to certain other brokers or dealers at discounts from the public offering price of up to % of the principal amount of the notes. If all the notes are not sold at the public offering price, the underwriters may change the public offering price and the other selling terms. The offering of the notes by the underwriters is subject to receipt and acceptance and subject to the underwriters' right to reject any order in whole or in part.

The following table shows the underwriting discount that we are to pay to the underwriters in connection with this offering.

Per note	Paid by HCP
	%
Total	\$

We estimate that our total expenses for this offering, excluding the underwriting discount, will be approximately \$ million and will be payable by us.

The notes are a new issue of securities with no established trading market. The underwriters have advised us that they currently intend to make a secondary market for the notes. However, they are not obligated to do so and may discontinue making a secondary market for the notes at any time without notice. No assurance can be given as to how liquid the trading market for the notes will be.

We have agreed to indemnify the several underwriters against liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or contribute to payments which the underwriters may be required to make in that respect.

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In connection with the offering, the underwriters may engage in stabilizing transactions, over-allotment transactions, syndicate covering transactions and penalty bids in accordance with Regulation M under the Exchange Act.

stabilizing transactions permit bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum.

over-allotment involves sales by the underwriters of the notes in excess of the aggregate principal amount of the notes the underwriters are obligated to purchase, which creates a syndicate short position.

syndicate covering transactions involve purchases of the notes in the open market after the distribution has been completed in order to cover syndicate short positions.

penalty bids permit the representatives to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member when the notes originally sold by the syndicate member are purchased in a stabilizing transaction or a syndicate covering transaction to cover syndicate short positions.

These stabilizing transactions, syndicate covering transactions and penalty bids may have the effect of raising or maintaining the market price of the notes or preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the notes. As a result, the price of the notes may be higher than the price that might otherwise exist in the open market. These transactions, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

Other Relationships

The underwriters and their respective affiliates are full service financial institutions engaged in various activities, which may include sales and trading, commercial and investment banking, advisory, corporate trust, investment management, investment research, principal investment, hedging, market making, brokerage and other financial and non-financial activities and services. Certain of the underwriters and/or their respective affiliates have provided, and in the future may provide, a variety of these services to us and to persons and entities with relationships to us for which they have received, and in the future may receive, customary fees and expenses, and may have entered into, and in the future may enter into, other transactions with us.

In addition, in the ordinary course of their various business activities, the underwriters and their respective affiliates, officers, directors and employees may purchase, sell, make or hold a broad array of investments and actively trade debt and equity securities, derivatives, loans, commodities, currencies, credit default swaps and other financial instruments for their own account and for the accounts of their customers, and such investment, trading and securities activities may involve or relate to assets, securities and/or instruments of ours (directly, as collateral securing other obligations or otherwise) and/or persons and entities with relationships with us. If any of the underwriters or their affiliates have a lending relationship with us, certain of those underwriters and their respective affiliates routinely hedge, and certain other of those underwriters or their affiliates may hedge, their credit exposure to us consistent with their customary risk management policies. Typically, such underwriters and their affiliates would hedge such exposure by entering into transactions which consist of either the purchase of credit default swaps or the creation of short positions in our securities, including potentially the notes offered hereby. Any such credit default swaps or short positions could adversely affect future trading prices of the notes offered hereby. The underwriters and their respective affiliates may also make or communicate investment recommendations, market color or trading ideas and/or publish or express independent research views in respect of such assets, securities or financial instruments and may at any time hold, or recommend to clients that they should acquire, long and/or short positions in such assets, securities and instruments.

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Notice to Prospective Investors in the European Economic Area

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a "Relevant Member State"), each underwriter has represented and agreed that with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in that Relevant Member State (the "Relevant Implementation Date") it has not made and will not make an offer of the notes which are the subject of the offering contemplated by this prospectus supplement to the public in that Relevant Member State other than:

to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Directive;

to fewer than 150 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive) as permitted under the Prospectus Directive, subject to obtaining the prior consent of the relevant underwriter or underwriters nominated by us for any such offer; or

in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive,

provided that no such offer of the notes shall require us or any underwriter to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.

For the purposes of this provision, the expression an "offer to the public" in relation to any notes in any Relevant Member State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the notes to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe to the notes, as the same may be varied in that Relevant Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that Relevant Member State, and the expression "Prospectus Directive" means Directive 2003/71/EC (and amendments thereto including the 2010 PD Amending Directive), and includes any relevant implementing measure in the Relevant Member State; and the expression "2010 PD Amending Directive" means Directive 2010/73/EU.

Notice to Prospective Investors in the United Kingdom

Each underwriter has represented and agreed that:

it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated an invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, as amended ("FSMA")) received by it in connection with the issue or sale of the notes in circumstances in which Section 21(1) of the FSMA would not apply to us; and

it has complied and will comply with all applicable provisions of the FSMA with respect to anything done by it in relation to the notes in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Hong Kong

The notes may not be offered or sold by means of any document other than (i) in circumstances which do not constitute an offer to the public within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap.32, Laws of Hong Kong), or (ii) to "professional investors" within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap.571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder, or (iii) in other circumstances which do not result in the document being a "prospectus" within the meaning of the Companies Ordinance (Cap.32, Laws of Hong Kong), and no advertisement, invitation or document relating to the notes may be issued or may be in the possession of any person for the purpose of issue (in each case whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere), which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public in Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to notes which are or are intended to be disposed of only to

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persons outside Hong Kong or only to "professional investors" within the meaning of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571, Laws of Hong Kong) and any rules made thereunder.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Japan

The securities have not been and will not be registered under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law of Japan (the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law) and each underwriter has agreed that it will not offer or sell any securities, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to, or for the benefit of, any resident of Japan (which term as used herein means any person resident in Japan, including any corporation or other entity organized under the laws of Japan), or to others for re-offering or resale, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to a resident of Japan, except pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of, and otherwise in compliance with, the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law and any other applicable laws, regulations and ministerial guidelines of Japan.

Notice to Prospective Investors in Singapore

This prospectus has not been registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore. Accordingly, this prospectus and any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale, or invitation for subscription or purchase, of the notes may not be circulated or distributed, nor may the notes be offered or sold, or be made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase, whether directly or indirectly, to persons in Singapore other than (i) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore (the "SFA"), (ii) to a relevant person, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions, specified in Section 275 of the SFA or (iii) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA.

Where the notes are subscribed or purchased under Section 275 by a relevant person which is: (a) a corporation (which is not an accredited investor) the sole business of which is to hold investments and the entire share capital of which is owned by one or more individuals, each of whom is an accredited investor; or (b) a trust (where the trustee is not an accredited investor) whose sole purpose is to hold investments and each beneficiary is an accredited investor, shares, debentures and units of shares and debentures of that corporation or the beneficiaries' rights and interest in that trust shall not be transferable for 6 months after that corporation or that trust has acquired the notes under Section 275 except: (1) to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the SFA or to a relevant person, or any person pursuant to Section 275(1A), and in accordance with the conditions, specified in Section 275 of the SFA; (2) where no consideration is given for the transfer; or (3) by operation of law.

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VALIDITY OF THE NOTES

Certain legal matters with respect to the notes offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, New York, New York. Certain legal matters relating to Maryland law will be passed upon for us by Ballard Spahr LLP, Baltimore, Maryland. Sidley Austin LLP, San Francisco, California, will act as counsel for the underwriters.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements, and the related financial statement schedules, of HCP, Inc. as of December 31, 2011 and 2010 and for the years then ended incorporated in this prospectus supplement by reference from HCP, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, and the effectiveness of HCP, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2011 have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their reports, which are incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedules have been so incorporated in reliance upon the reports of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

The consolidated financial statements and schedules of HCP, Inc. for the year ended December 31, 2009 appearing in HCP, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in their report thereon, included therein, and incorporated herein by reference. Such consolidated financial statements and schedules are incorporated herein by reference in reliance upon such report given on the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

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PROSPECTUS

HCP, Inc.

**Common Stock
Preferred Stock
Depositary Shares
Debt Securities
Warrants or Other Rights
Stock Purchase Contracts
Units**

HCP, Inc. from time to time may offer to sell the securities listed above. The preferred stock, debt securities, warrants, rights and stock purchase contracts may be convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for common or preferred stock or other securities of HCP or debt or equity securities of one or more other entities. Our common stock is quoted on the New York Stock Exchange (the "NYSE") under the symbol "HCP."

HCP may offer and sell these securities directly or to or through one or more underwriters, dealers and/or agents, or directly to purchasers on a continuous or delayed basis.

This prospectus describes some of the general terms that may apply to these securities and the general manner in which they may be offered. The specific terms of any securities to be offered, and the specific manner in which they may be offered, will be described in a supplement to this prospectus.

You should consider the risks discussed in "Risk Factors" beginning on page 4 of this prospectus before you invest in our securities.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is September 4, 2009

HCP, Inc.
3760 Kilroy Airport Way, Suite 300
Long Beach, California 90806
(562) 733-5100

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All references in this prospectus to "HCP," "we," "us" or "our" mean HCP, Inc., its majority-owned subsidiaries and other entities controlled by HCP, Inc. except where it is clear from the context that the term means only the issuer, HCP, Inc. Unless otherwise stated, currency amounts in this prospectus are stated in United States dollars.

When acquiring any securities discussed in this prospectus, you should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement. We have not authorized anyone else to provide you with different or additional information. If anyone provides you with different or additional information, you should not rely on it. An offer to sell these securities will not be made in any jurisdiction where the offer and sale is not permitted. You should not assume that the information appearing in this prospectus, as well as information we previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and incorporated by reference, is accurate as of any date other than the date mentioned on the front cover of those documents. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date.

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of an automatic shelf registration statement on Form S-3 that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC, as a "well-known seasoned issuer" as defined in Rule 405 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. As allowed by the SEC rules, this prospectus does not contain all of the information included in the registration statement. For further information, we refer you to the registration statement, including its exhibits. Statements contained in this prospectus about the provisions or contents of any agreement or other document are not necessarily complete. If the SEC's rules and regulations require that an agreement or document be filed as an

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exhibit to the registration statement, please see that agreement or document for a complete description of these matters.

You should read this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with any additional information you may need to make your investment decision. You should also read and carefully consider the information in the documents we have referred you to in "Where You Can Find More Information" below. Information incorporated by reference after the date of this prospectus is considered a part of this prospectus and may add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. Any information in such subsequent filings that is inconsistent with this prospectus will supersede the information in this prospectus or any earlier prospectus supplement.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any materials we file with the SEC at its public reference room at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may also obtain copies of this information by mail from the public reference room of the SEC, 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549, at prescribed rates. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the operation of the public reference facilities. Our SEC filings are also available to the public from commercial document retrieval services and at the web site maintained by the SEC at <http://www.sec.gov>. You may inspect information that we file with The New York Stock Exchange, as well as our SEC filings, at the offices of The New York Stock Exchange at 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

The SEC allows us to "incorporate by reference" certain information we file with the SEC, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring to the other information we have filed with the SEC. We incorporate by reference the following documents we filed with the SEC pursuant to Section 13 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (other than any portions of any such documents that are not deemed "filed" under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and applicable SEC rules):

our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on March 2, 2009, May 4, 2009 (relating to the revision to our historical financial statements), May 8, 2009, June 3, 2009 and August 10, 2009;

our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31 and June 30, 2009;

our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008;

the description of our common stock contained in our registration statement on Form 10 dated May 7, 1985 (File No. 1-08895), including the amendments dated May 20, 1985 and May 23, 1985, and any other amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description, including the description of amendments to our charter contained in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended June 30, 2001, June 30, 2004 and September 30, 2007;

the description of our 7.25% Series E Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock as set forth in our registration statement filed under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 on Form 8-A on September 12, 2003, including any amendment or report for the purpose of updating such description; and

the description of our 7.1% Series F Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock as set forth in our registration statement filed under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 on Form 8-A on December 2, 2003, including any amendment or report for the purpose of updating such description.

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We are also incorporating by reference additional documents that we may file with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 after the date of this prospectus and prior to the termination of the offering of the securities described in this prospectus (other than any portions of any such documents that are not deemed "filed" under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and applicable SEC rules). These documents include periodic reports, such as Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K, as well as Proxy Statements. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this prospectus to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this prospectus.

Documents incorporated by reference are available from us without charge, excluding all exhibits unless we have specifically incorporated by reference the exhibit in this prospectus. You may obtain documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus by requesting them in writing or by telephone from:

Legal Department
HCP, Inc.
3760 Kilroy Airport Way, Suite 300
Long Beach, California 90806
(562) 733-5100
legaldept@hcpi.com

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RISK FACTORS

We have included discussions of cautionary factors describing risks relating to our business and an investment in our securities in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, which is incorporated by reference into this prospectus. See "Where You Can Find More Information" for an explanation of how to get a copy of this report. Additional risks related to our securities may also be described in a prospectus supplement. Before purchasing our securities, you should carefully consider the risk factors we describe in any prospectus supplement or in any report incorporated by reference into this prospectus or such prospectus supplement, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008. Although we discuss key risks in those risk factor descriptions, additional risks not currently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial also may impair our business. Our subsequent filings with the SEC may contain amended and updated discussions of significant risks. We cannot predict future risks or estimate the extent to which they may affect our financial performance.

CAUTIONARY LANGUAGE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Statements in this prospectus and the information incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 that are not historical factual statements are "forward-looking statements." We intend to have our forward-looking statements covered by the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and include this statement for purposes of complying with those provisions. Forward-looking statements include, among other things, statements regarding our and our officers' intent, belief or expectations as identified by the use of words such as "may," "will," "project," "expect," "believe," "intend," "anticipate," "seek," "forecast," "plan," "estimate," "could," "would," "should" and other comparable and derivative terms or the negatives thereof. In addition, we, through our officers, from time to time, make forward-looking oral and written public statements concerning our expected future operations, strategies, securities offerings, growth and investment opportunities, dispositions, capital structure changes, budgets and other developments. Readers are cautioned that, while forward-looking statements reflect our good faith belief and reasonable assumptions based upon current information, we can give no assurance that our expectations or forecasts will be attained. Therefore, readers should be mindful that forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and that they are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict. As more fully set forth under "Part I, Item 1A. Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2008, factors that may cause our actual results to differ materially from the expectations contained in the forward-looking statements include:

- (a) Changes in national and local economic conditions, including a prolonged recession;
- (b) Continued volatility in the capital markets, including changes in interest rates and the availability and cost of capital;
- (c) The ability of the Company to manage its indebtedness level and changes in the terms of such indebtedness;
- (d) Changes in federal, state or local laws and regulations, including those affecting the healthcare industry that affect our costs of compliance or increase the costs, or otherwise affect the operations of our operators, tenants and borrowers;
- (e) The potential impact of existing and future litigation matters, including related developments;
- (f) Competition for tenants and borrowers, including with respect to new leases and mortgages and the renewal or rollover of existing leases;

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- (g) The ability of the Company to reposition its properties on the same or better terms if existing leases are not renewed or the Company exercises its right to replace an existing operator or tenant upon default;
- (h) Availability of suitable properties to acquire at favorable prices and the competition for the acquisition and financing of those properties;
- (i) The ability of our operators, tenants and borrowers to conduct their respective businesses in a manner sufficient to maintain or increase their revenues and to generate sufficient income to make rent and loan payments to us;
- (j) The financial weakness of some operators and tenants, including potential bankruptcies and downturns in their businesses, which results in uncertainties regarding our ability to continue to realize the full benefit of such operators' and/or tenants' leases;
- (k) The risk that we will not be able to sell or lease properties that are currently vacant, at all or at competitive rates;
- (l) The financial, legal and regulatory difficulties of significant operators of our properties, including Sunrise Senior Living, Inc.;
- (m) The risk that we may not be able to integrate acquired businesses successfully or achieve the operating efficiencies and other benefits of acquisitions within expected time-frames or at all, or within expected cost projections;
- (n) The ability to obtain financing necessary to consummate acquisitions or on favorable terms; and
- (o) Changes in the reimbursement available to our tenants and borrowers by governmental or private payors, including changes in Medicare and Medicaid payment levels and the availability and cost of third party insurance coverage.

Except as required by law, we undertake no, and hereby disclaim any, obligation to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, changed circumstances or otherwise.

THE COMPANY

We invest primarily in real estate serving the healthcare industry in the United States. We are a Maryland corporation and were organized to qualify as a REIT in 1985. We are headquartered in Long Beach, California, with offices in Chicago, Illinois; Nashville, Tennessee; and San Francisco, California. We acquire, develop, lease, manage and dispose of healthcare real estate and provide financing to healthcare providers. Our portfolio is comprised of investments in the following five healthcare segments: (i) senior housing, (ii) life science, (iii) medical office, (iv) hospital, and (v) skilled nursing. We make investments within our five healthcare segments using the following five investment products: (i) properties under lease, (ii) investment management, (iii) developments, (iv) mezzanine loans, and (v) non-managing member LLC's.

Our executive offices are located at 3760 Kilroy Airport Way, Suite 300, Long Beach, California 90806, and our telephone number is (562) 733-5100.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED STOCK DIVIDENDS

The following table sets forth our ratios of earnings to fixed charges and our ratios of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends for the periods indicated. In computing the ratios of earnings to fixed charges, earnings have been based on consolidated income from continuing operations before fixed charges (exclusive of capitalized interest). Fixed charges consist of interest on

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debt, including amounts capitalized, an estimate of interest in rental expense, and interest expense related to the guaranteed debt of the partnerships and limited liability companies in which we hold an interest. In computing the ratios of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred stock dividends, preferred stock dividends consist of dividends on our 7.25% Series E Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock and 7.10% Series F Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock.

	Year Ended December 31,					For the Six Months Ended
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	June 30, 2009
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges	1.53	1.41	1.13	1.28	1.51	1.63
Ratio of Earnings to Combined Fixed Charges and Preferred Stock Dividends	1.24	1.18	1.03	1.22	1.43	1.53

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement for any offering of securities, the net proceeds, after estimated expenses, we receive from the sale of these securities will be used for general corporate purposes, which may include:

funding investments in, or extensions of credit to, our subsidiaries;

funding investments in non-affiliates;

reducing, repaying or refinancing debt;

repurchasing or redeeming outstanding securities;

financing possible acquisitions; and

working capital.

Pending such use, we may temporarily invest net proceeds. We will disclose in the prospectus supplement relating to an offering of securities any intention to use the net proceeds from such offering in connection with an acquisition or to reduce or refinance outstanding debt.

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK WE MAY OFFER

Please note that in this section entitled "Description of Capital Stock We May Offer," references to "holders" mean those who own shares of common stock or preferred stock, registered in their own names, on the books that the registrar or we maintain for this purpose, and not those who own beneficial interests in shares registered in street name or in shares issued in book-entry form through one or more depositories. Owners of beneficial interests in shares of common stock should also read the section entitled "Legal Ownership and Book-Entry Issuance."

The following description summarizes the material provisions of the common stock and preferred stock we may offer. This description is not complete and is subject to, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to our charter and our bylaws and applicable provisions of the Maryland General Corporation Law, or the MGCL. The specific terms of any series of preferred stock will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Any series of preferred stock we issue will be governed by our charter and by the articles supplementary related to that series. We will file the articles supplementary with the SEC and incorporate it by reference as an exhibit to our registration statement at or before the time we issue any preferred stock of that series of authorized preferred stock.

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Our authorized capital stock consists of 750,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$1.00 per share, and 50,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$1.00 per share. The following description does not contain all the information that might be important to you.

Common Stock

As of September 1, 2009, there were 293,137,745 shares of common stock outstanding. All shares of common stock participate equally in dividends payable to holders of common stock, when, as and if authorized by our board and declared by us, and in net assets available for distribution to holders of common stock on liquidation, dissolution, or winding up. Each outstanding share of common stock entitles the holder to one vote on all matters submitted to a vote of our stockholders. Holders of common stock do not have cumulative voting rights in the election of directors.

All issued and outstanding shares of common stock are, and the common stock offered by this prospectus will be upon issuance, validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable. Holders of common stock do not have preference, conversion, exchange or preemptive rights. The common stock is listed on The New York Stock Exchange (NYSE Symbol: HCP).

The Transfer Agent and Registrar for our common stock is Wells Fargo Shareowner Services.

Preferred Stock

Under our charter, our board is authorized without further stockholder action to establish and issue, from time to time, up to 50,000,000 shares of our preferred stock, in one or more series, with such designations, preferences, powers and relative participating, optional or other special rights, and the qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereon, including, but not limited to, dividend rights, dividend rate or rates, conversion rights, voting rights, rights and terms of redemption (including sinking fund provisions), the redemption price or prices, and the liquidation preferences as shall be stated in the resolution providing for the issue of a series of such stock, adopted, at any time or from time to time, by our board. As of September 1, 2009, we had outstanding 4,000,000 shares of 7.25% Series E Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock, or Series E Preferred Stock, with a liquidation preference of \$100,000,000 and 7,820,000 shares of 7.10% Series F Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock, or Series F Preferred Stock, with a liquidation preference of \$195,500,000.

The following description of the terms of the preferred stock sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the preferred stock to which any prospectus supplement may relate. The preferred stock shall have the dividend, liquidation, redemption and voting rights set forth below unless otherwise provided in a prospectus supplement relating to a particular series of the preferred stock. The terms of any particular series of preferred stock will be described in the prospectus supplement relating to that particular series of preferred stock, including:

the number of shares constituting the series and the distinctive designation thereof;

the voting rights, if any, of the series;

the rate of dividends payable on the series, the time or times when dividends will be payable, the preference to, or any relation to, the payment of dividends to any other class or series of stock and whether the dividends will be cumulative or non-cumulative;

whether there shall be a sinking or similar fund for the purchase of shares of the series and, if so, the terms and provisions that shall govern the fund;

the rights of the holders of shares of the series upon our liquidation, dissolution or winding up;

the rights, if any, of holders of shares of the series to convert their shares into or to exchange the shares for, shares of any other class or classes or any other series of the same or of any

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other class or classes of stock of the corporation or any other securities, the price or prices or rate or rates of exchange, with such adjustments as shall be provided, at which the shares shall be convertible or exchangeable, whether such rights of conversion or exchange shall be exercisable at the option of the holder of the shares or upon the happening of a specified event and any other terms or conditions of such conversion or exchange; and

any other preferences, powers and relative participating, optional or other special rights and qualifications, limitations or restrictions of shares of the series.

The preferred stock will, when issued, be fully paid and nonassessable and will have no preemptive rights. Unless otherwise stated in a prospectus supplement relating to a particular series of preferred stock, each series of preferred stock will rank on a parity as to dividends and distributions of assets with each other series of preferred stock. The rights of the holders of each series of preferred stock will be subordinate to those of our general creditors.

Dividend Rights of Preferred Stock

Holders of shares of preferred stock of each series will be entitled to receive, when, as and if declared by our board of directors, out of funds legally available therefor, cash dividends on the dates and at rates as will be set forth in, or as are determined by the method described in, the prospectus supplement relating to the series of preferred stock. The rate may be fixed or variable or both. Each dividend will be payable to the holders of record as they appear on our stock books on the record dates fixed by our board of directors, as specified in the prospectus supplement relating to the series of preferred stock.

Dividends may be cumulative or noncumulative, as provided in the prospectus supplement relating to the series of preferred stock. If our board of directors fails to declare a dividend payable on a dividend payment date on any series of preferred stock for which dividends are noncumulative, then the holders of the series of preferred stock will have no right to receive a dividend in respect of the dividend period ending on the dividend payment date, and we will have no obligation to pay the dividend accrued for such period, whether or not dividends on the series are declared payable on any future dividend payment dates. Dividends on the shares of each series of preferred stock for which dividends are cumulative will accrue from the date on which we initially issue shares of the series.

So long as the shares of any series of preferred stock are outstanding, except as otherwise provided in the prospectus supplement relating to such series, we may not declare any dividends on our common stock or any other stock ranking as to dividends or distributions of assets junior to the series of preferred stock or make any payment on account of, or set apart money for, the purchase, redemption or other retirement of, or for a sinking or other analogous fund for, any shares of junior stock or make any distribution in respect thereof, whether in cash or property or in obligations or stock, other than junior stock which is neither convertible into, nor exchangeable or exercisable for, any securities other than junior stock:

unless, if the preferred stock is cumulative, full dividends for prior dividend periods shall have been paid or declared and set apart for payment on all outstanding shares of preferred stock of the series and all other series of our preferred stock (other than junior stock); and

unless we are not in default or in arrears with respect to the mandatory or optional redemption or mandatory repurchase or other mandatory retirement of, or with respect to any sinking or other analogous fund for, any shares of preferred stock of the series or any shares of any other series of our preferred stock (other than junior stock).

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Liquidation Preference

In the event of any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of us, voluntary or involuntary, the holders of each series of the preferred stock will be entitled to receive out of our assets legally available for distribution to stockholders, before any distribution of assets or payment is made to the holders of common stock or any other shares of our stock ranking junior as to such distribution or payment to such series of preferred stock, the amount set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to such series of preferred stock. If, upon any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of us, the amounts payable with respect to the preferred stock of any series and any other shares of preferred stock (including any other series of the preferred stock) ranking as to any such distribution on a parity with such series of preferred stock are not paid in full, the holders of the preferred stock of such series and of such other shares of preferred stock will share ratably in any such distribution of our assets in proportion to the full respective preferential amounts to which they are entitled. After payment to the holders of the preferred stock of each series of the full preferential amounts of the liquidating distribution to which they are entitled, the holders of each such series of preferred stock will be entitled to no further participation in any distribution of our assets.

If such payment shall have been made in full to all holders of shares of preferred stock, our remaining assets will be distributed among the holders of any other classes of stock ranking junior to the preferred stock upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up, according to their respective rights and preferences and in each case according to their respective number of shares. For such purposes, our consolidation or merger with or into any other corporation, or the sale, lease or conveyance of all or substantially all of our property or business, shall not be deemed to constitute a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of us.

In determining whether a distribution (other than upon voluntary or involuntary liquidation) by dividend, redemption or other acquisition of shares of our stock or otherwise is permitted under the MGCL, no effect shall be given to amounts that would be needed, if we would be dissolved at the time of the distribution, to satisfy the preferential rights upon dissolution of holders of shares of our stock whose preferential rights upon dissolution are superior to those receiving the distribution.

Redemption

A series of preferred stock may be redeemable, in whole or from time to time in part, at our option, and may be subject to mandatory redemption pursuant to a sinking fund or otherwise, in each case upon terms, at the times and at the redemption prices set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to such series. Shares of the preferred stock redeemed by us will be restored to the status of authorized but unissued shares of preferred stock.

In the event that fewer than all of the outstanding shares of a series of the preferred stock are to be redeemed, whether by mandatory or optional redemption, the number of shares to be redeemed will be determined by lot or pro rata (subject to rounding to avoid fractional shares) as may be determined by us or by any other method as may be determined by us in our sole discretion to be equitable. From and after the redemption date (unless default shall be made by us in providing for the payment of the redemption price plus accumulated and unpaid dividends, if any), dividends shall cease to accumulate on the shares of the preferred stock called for redemption and all rights of the holders thereof (except the right to receive the redemption price plus accumulated and unpaid dividends, if any) shall cease.

So long as any dividends on shares of any series of preferred stock or any other series of preferred stock ranking on a parity as to dividends and distributions of assets with such series of preferred stock are in arrears, no shares of any such series of the preferred stock or such other series of preferred stock will be redeemed (whether by mandatory or optional redemption) unless all such shares are simultaneously redeemed, and we will not purchase or otherwise acquire any such shares. However, the foregoing will not prevent the purchase or acquisition of such shares of preferred stock of such series

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or of shares of such other series of preferred stock in order to ensure that we continue to meet the requirements for qualification as a REIT for federal and state income tax purposes or pursuant to a purchase or exchange offer made on the same terms to holders of all outstanding shares of preferred stock of such series and, unless the full cumulative dividends on all outstanding shares of any cumulative preferred stock of such series and any other stock ranking on a parity with such series as to dividends and upon liquidation shall have been paid or contemporaneously are declared and paid for all past dividend periods, we will not purchase or otherwise acquire directly or indirectly any shares of preferred stock of such series (except by conversion into or exchange for our stock) ranking junior to the preferred stock of such series as to dividends and upon liquidation.

Notice of redemption will be mailed at least 30 days but not more than 60 days before the redemption date to each holder of record of shares of preferred stock to be redeemed at the address shown on our stock transfer books. After the redemption date, dividends will cease to accrue on the shares of preferred stock called for redemption and all rights of the holders of such shares will terminate, except the right to receive the redemption price without interest plus accumulated and unpaid dividends, if any.

Conversion Rights

The terms, if any, on which shares of preferred stock of any series may be exchanged for or converted (mandatorily or otherwise) into shares of common stock or another series of preferred stock will be set forth in the prospectus supplement relating thereto.

Voting Rights

Except as indicated below or in a prospectus supplement relating to a particular series of preferred stock, the holders of the preferred stock will not be entitled to vote for any purpose.

So long as any shares of preferred stock remain outstanding, we will not, without the consent or the affirmative vote of the holders of two-thirds of the shares of each series of preferred stock outstanding at the time given in person or by proxy, either in writing or at a meeting (such series voting separately as a class):

authorize, create or issue, or increase the authorized or issued amount of, any series of stock ranking prior to such series of preferred stock with respect to payment of dividends, or the distribution of assets on liquidation, dissolution or winding up or reclassifying any of our authorized stock into any such shares, or create, authorize or issue any obligation or security convertible into or evidencing the right to purchase any such shares; or

repeal, amend or otherwise change any of the provisions of our charter applicable to the preferred stock of such series in any manner which materially and adversely affects the powers, preferences, voting power or other rights or privileges of such series of preferred stock or the holders thereof; provided, however, that any increase in the amount of the authorized preferred stock or the creation or issuance of other series of preferred stock, or any increase in the amount of authorized shares of such series or of any other series of preferred stock, in each case ranking on a parity with or junior to the preferred stock of such series, shall not be deemed to materially and adversely affect such rights, preferences, privileges or voting powers.

The foregoing voting provisions will not apply if, at or prior to the time when the act with respect to which such vote would otherwise be required shall be effected, all outstanding shares of the preferred stock shall have been redeemed or called for redemption and sufficient funds shall have been deposited in trust to effect such redemption.

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Series E Preferred Stock

Voting Rights

Holders of Series E Preferred Stock generally do not have any voting rights, except in limited circumstances.

If dividends on any shares of Series E Preferred Stock are in arrears for six or more quarterly periods, whether or not consecutive, the holders of Series E Preferred Stock (voting separately as a class with all other classes or series of preferred stock upon which like voting rights have been conferred and are exercisable) are entitled to vote for the election of a total of two additional directors of HCP at a special meeting called by the holders of record of at least 25% of the Series E Preferred Stock or the holders of any other class or series of preferred stock so in arrears or at the next annual meeting of stockholders. These voting rights continue at each subsequent annual meeting until all dividends accumulated on such shares of Series E Preferred Stock for the past dividend periods and the dividend for the then current dividend period shall have been fully paid or declared and set aside for payment. In such case, our entire board is increased by two directors.

So long as any shares of Series E Preferred Stock remain outstanding, we shall not, without the consent or the affirmative vote of the holders of at least two-thirds of the shares of Series E Preferred Stock outstanding at the time, given in person or by proxy, either in writing or at a meeting, with the Series E Preferred Stock voting separately as a class:

authorize, create or issue, or increase the authorized or issued amount of, any class or series of stock ranking prior to the Series E Preferred Stock with respect to the payment of dividends, or the distribution of assets on liquidation, dissolution or winding up;

reclassify any of our authorized stock into any such shares, or authorize, create or issue any obligation or security convertible into or evidencing the right to purchase any class or series of stock ranking prior to the Series E Preferred Stock with respect to the payment of dividends, or the distribution of assets on liquidation, dissolution or winding up; or

repeal, amend or otherwise change any of the provisions applicable to the Series E Preferred Stock in any manner which materially and adversely affects the powers, preferences, voting power or other rights or privileges of the Series E Preferred Stock. However, an increase in the amount of authorized preferred stock, the creation or issuance of other classes or series of preferred stock or any increase in the amount of authorized shares of Series E Preferred Stock or of any other class or series of preferred stock, in each case ranking on a parity with or junior to the Series E Preferred Stock, will not be deemed to materially and adversely affect such rights, preferences, privileges or voting powers.

The consent of the holders of Series E Preferred Stock is not required for the taking of any corporate action, including any merger or consolidation involving us or a sale of all or substantially all of our assets, regardless of the effect that such merger, consolidation or sale may have upon the rights, preferences or voting power of the holders of the Series E Preferred Stock, except as expressly set forth in the provisions of our charter.

Rank

With respect to dividend rights and rights upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of HCP, the Series E Preferred Stock ranks:

senior to the common stock, and to all equity securities issued by us ranking junior to the Series E Preferred Stock with respect to dividend rights or rights upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of HCP;

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on a parity with all equity securities issued by us the terms of which specifically provide that such equity securities rank on a parity with the Series E Preferred Stock with respect to dividend rights or rights upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of HCP; and

junior to all equity securities issued by us the terms of which specifically provide that such equity securities rank senior to the Series E Preferred Stock with respect to dividend rights or rights upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of HCP.

The term "equity securities" does not include convertible debt securities, which rank senior to the Series E Preferred Stock prior to conversion.

Dividends

Holders of shares of the Series E Preferred Stock are entitled to receive, when, as, and if declared by our board out of funds legally available for the payment of dividends, cumulative preferential annual cash dividends at the rate of 7.25% of the liquidation preference (equivalent to \$1.8125 per annum per share).

Dividends on the Series E Preferred Stock are cumulative from the date of original issue and payable quarterly in arrears on or about the last day of each March, June, September and December or, if not a business day, the next succeeding business day.

No dividends may be declared by our board or paid or set apart for payment on the Series E Preferred Stock if the terms of any of our agreements, including any agreement relating to its indebtedness, prohibits such a declaration, payment or setting apart for payment or provides that such declaration, payment or setting apart for payment would constitute a breach of or default under such an agreement. Likewise, no dividends may be declared by our board or paid or set apart for payment if such declaration or payment is restricted or prohibited by law.

Dividends on the Series E Preferred Stock accrue, however, whether or not we have earnings, whether or not there are funds legally available for the payment of such dividends and whether or not such dividends are declared. Accrued but unpaid dividends on the Series E Preferred Stock do not bear interest and holders of the Series E Preferred Stock are not entitled to any dividends in excess of full cumulative dividends described above. Any dividend payment made on the Series E Preferred Stock is first credited against the earliest accrued but unpaid dividend due that remains payable.

No full dividends may be declared or paid or set apart for payment on any class or series of preferred stock ranking, as to dividends, on a parity with or junior to the Series E Preferred Stock, other than a dividend in shares of any class of stock ranking junior to the Series E Preferred Stock as to dividends and upon liquidation, for any period unless full cumulative dividends have been or contemporaneously are declared and paid or declared and set apart for such payment on the Series E Preferred Stock for all past dividend periods and the then current dividend period. When dividends are not paid in full, or full payment is not so set apart, upon the Series E Preferred Stock and the shares of any other class or series of preferred stock ranking on a parity as to dividends with the Series E Preferred Stock, all dividends declared upon the Series E Preferred Stock and any other class or series of preferred stock ranking on a parity as to dividends with the Series E Preferred Stock are declared pro rata so that the amount of dividends declared per share of Series E Preferred Stock and such other class or series of preferred stock shall in all cases bear to each other the same ratio that accrued dividends per share on the Series E Preferred Stock and such other class or series of preferred stock, which cannot include any accrual in respect of unpaid dividends for prior dividend periods if such preferred stock does not have a cumulative dividend, bear to each other.

Except as provided in the preceding paragraph, unless full cumulative dividends on the Series E Preferred Stock have been or contemporaneously are declared and paid or declared and set apart for payment for all past dividend periods and the then current dividend period, then, other than the

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payment of dividends in shares of common stock or other shares of capital stock ranking junior to the Series E Preferred Stock as to dividends and upon liquidation:

no dividends may be declared or paid or set aside for payment upon the common stock, or any other of our capital stock ranking junior to or on a parity with the Series E Preferred Stock as to dividends or upon liquidation;

no other distribution may be declared or made upon the common stock, or any other of our capital stock ranking junior to or on a parity with the Series E Preferred Stock as to dividends or upon liquidation; and

no shares of common stock, or any other shares of our capital stock ranking junior to or on a parity with the Series E Preferred Stock as to dividends or upon liquidation may be redeemed, purchased or otherwise acquired for any consideration by us, except by conversion into or exchange for other of our capital stock ranking junior to the Series E Preferred Stock as to dividends and upon liquidation or for the purpose of preserving our qualification as a real estate investment trust.

Liquidation Preferences

Upon any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the affairs of HCP, the holders of Series E Preferred Stock are entitled to be paid out of our assets legally available for distribution to our stockholders a liquidation preference of \$25 per share, plus an amount equal to any accrued and unpaid dividends to the date of payment, before any distribution of assets is made to holders of common stock or any other class or series of our capital stock that ranks junior to the Series E Preferred Stock as to liquidation rights.

In determining whether a distribution (other than upon voluntary or involuntary liquidation) by dividend, redemption or other acquisition of shares of our stock or otherwise is permitted under the MGCL, no effect is given to amounts that would be needed if we would be dissolved at the time of the distribution, to satisfy the preferential rights upon distribution of holders of shares of our stock whose preferential rights upon distribution are superior to those receiving the distribution.

Maturity; Redemption

The Series E Preferred Stock has no stated maturity, is not subject to any sinking fund or mandatory redemption. We are entitled to purchase shares of the Series E Preferred Stock in order to preserve our status as a real estate investment trust for federal or state income tax purposes at any time. We may, at our option, redeem the Series E Preferred Stock at \$25 per share (\$100,000,000 in the aggregate), plus accrued and unpaid dividends.

Transfer and Ownership Restrictions

See " Transfer and Ownership Restrictions Relating to our Preferred Stock."

Series F Preferred Stock

Voting Rights

Holders of the Series F Preferred Stock generally do not have any voting rights, except in limited circumstances.

If dividends on any shares of Series F Preferred Stock are in arrears for six or more quarterly periods, whether or not consecutive, the holders of Series F Preferred Stock (voting separately as a class with all other classes or series of preferred stock upon which like voting rights have been conferred and are exercisable, including the Series E Preferred Stock) are entitled to vote for the

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election of a total of two additional directors of HCP at a special meeting called by the holders of record of at least 25% of the Series F Preferred Stock or the holders of any other class or series of preferred stock so in arrears or at the next annual meeting of stockholders. These voting rights continue at each subsequent annual meeting until all dividends accumulated on such shares of Series F Preferred Stock for the past dividend periods and the dividend for the then current dividend period shall have been fully paid or declared and set aside for payment. In such case, our entire board is increased by two directors.

So long as any shares of Series F Preferred Stock remain outstanding, we shall not, without the consent or the affirmative vote of the holders of at least two-thirds of the shares of Series F Preferred Stock outstanding at the time, given in person or by proxy, either in writing or at a meeting, with the Series F Preferred Stock voting separately as a class:

authorize, create or issue, or increase the authorized or issued amount of, any class or series of stock ranking prior to the Series F Preferred Stock with respect to the payment of dividends, or the distribution of assets on liquidation, dissolution or winding up;

reclassify any of our authorized stock into any such shares, or authorize, create or issue any obligation or security convertible into or evidencing the right to purchase any class or series of stock ranking prior to the Series F Preferred Stock with respect to the payment of dividends, or the distribution of assets on liquidation, dissolution or winding up; or

repeal, amend or otherwise change any of the provisions applicable to the Series F Preferred Stock in any manner which materially and adversely affects the powers, preferences, voting power or other rights or privileges of the Series F Preferred Stock. However, an increase in the amount of authorized preferred stock, the creation or issuance of other classes or series of preferred stock or any increase in the amount of authorized shares of Series F Preferred Stock or of any other class or series of preferred stock, in each case ranking on a parity with or junior to the Series F Preferred Stock, will not be deemed to materially and adversely affect such rights, preferences, privileges or voting powers.

The consent of the holders of Series F Preferred Stock is not required for the taking of any corporate action, including any merger or consolidation involving us or a sale of all or substantially all of our assets, regardless of the effect that such merger, consolidation or sale may have upon the rights, preferences or voting power of the holders of the Series F Preferred Stock, except as expressly set forth in the provisions of our charter.

Rank

With respect to dividend rights and rights upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of HCP, the Series F Preferred Stock ranks:

senior to the common stock, and to all equity securities issued by us ranking junior to the Series F Preferred Stock with respect to dividend rights or rights upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of HCP;

on a parity with the Series E Preferred Stock and with all equity securities issued by us the terms of which specifically provide that such equity securities rank on a parity with the Series F Preferred Stock with respect to dividend rights or rights upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of HCP; and

junior to all equity securities issued by us the terms of which specifically provide that such equity securities rank senior to the Series F Preferred Stock with respect to dividend rights or rights upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of HCP.

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The term "equity securities" does not include convertible debt securities, which rank senior to the Series F Preferred Stock prior to conversion.

Dividends

Holders of the Series F Preferred Stock are entitled to receive, when, as, and if declared by our board, out of funds legally available for the payment of dividends, cumulative preferential annual cash dividends at the rate of 7.10% of the liquidation preference (equivalent to \$1.775 per annum per share).

Dividends on the Series F Preferred Stock are cumulative from the date of original issue and payable quarterly in arrears on or about the last day of each March, June, September and December or, if not a business day, the next succeeding business day. Any dividend payable on the Series F Preferred Stock, including dividends payable for any partial dividend period, are computed on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months.

No dividends may be declared by our board or paid or set apart for payment on the Series F Preferred Stock if the terms of any of our agreements, including any agreement relating to its indebtedness, prohibits such a declaration, payment or setting apart for payment or provides that such declaration, payment or setting apart for payment would constitute a breach of or default under such an agreement. Likewise, no dividends may be declared by our board or paid or set apart for payment if such declaration or payment is restricted or prohibited by law.

Dividends on the Series F Preferred Stock accrue, however, whether or not we have earnings, whether or not there are funds legally available for the payment of such dividends and whether or not such dividends are declared. Accrued but unpaid dividends on the Series F Preferred Stock do not bear interest and holders of the Series F Preferred Stock are not entitled to any dividends in excess of full cumulative dividends described above. Any dividend payment made on the Series F Preferred Stock is first credited against the earliest accrued but unpaid dividend due that remains payable.

No full dividends may be declared or paid or set apart for payment on any class or series of preferred stock ranking, as to dividends, on a parity with or junior to the Series F Preferred Stock, other than a dividend in shares of any class of stock ranking junior to the Series F Preferred Stock as to dividends and upon liquidation, for any period unless full cumulative dividends have been or contemporaneously are declared and paid or declared and set apart for such payment on the Series F Preferred Stock for all past dividend periods and the then current dividend period. When dividends are not paid in full (or full payment is not so set apart) upon the Series F Preferred Stock and the shares of any other class or series of preferred stock ranking on a parity as to dividends with the Series F Preferred Stock, including the Series E Preferred Stock, all dividends declared upon the Series F Preferred Stock and any other class or series of preferred stock ranking on a parity as to dividends with the Series F Preferred Stock are declared pro rata so that the amount of dividends declared per share of Series F Preferred Stock and such other class or series of preferred stock shall in all cases bear to each other the same ratio that accrued dividends per share on the Series F Preferred Stock and such other class or series of preferred stock, which shall not include any accrual in respect of unpaid dividends for prior dividend periods if such preferred stock does not have a cumulative dividend, bear to each other.

Except as provided in the preceding paragraph, unless full cumulative dividends on the Series F Preferred Stock have been or contemporaneously are declared and paid or declared and set apart for payment for all past dividend periods and the then current dividend period, then, other than the

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payment of dividends in shares of common stock or other shares of capital stock ranking junior to the Series F Preferred Stock as to dividends and upon liquidation:

no dividends may be declared or paid or set aside for payment upon the common stock, or any other of our capital stock ranking junior to or on a parity with the Series F Preferred Stock as to dividends or upon liquidation;

no other distribution may be declared or made upon the common stock, or any other of our capital stock ranking junior to or on a parity with the Series F Preferred Stock as to dividends or upon liquidation; and

no shares of common stock, or any other shares of our capital stock ranking junior to or on a parity with the Series F Preferred Stock as to dividends or upon liquidation may be redeemed, purchased or otherwise acquired for any consideration by us, except by conversion into or exchange for other of our capital stock ranking junior to the Series F Preferred Stock as to dividends and upon liquidation or for the purpose of preserving our qualification as a real estate investment trust.

Liquidation Preferences

Upon any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the affairs of HCP, the holders of Series F Preferred Stock are entitled to be paid out of our assets legally available for distribution to our stockholders a liquidation preference of \$25 per share, plus an amount equal to any accrued and unpaid dividends to the date of payment, before any distribution of assets is made to holders of common stock or any other class or series of our capital stock that ranks junior to the Series F Preferred Stock as to liquidation rights.

In determining whether a distribution, other than upon voluntary or involuntary liquidation, by dividend, redemption or other acquisition of shares of our stock or otherwise is permitted under the MGCL, no effect is given to amounts that would be needed if we would be dissolved at the time of the distribution, to satisfy the preferential rights upon distribution of holders of shares of our stock whose preferential rights upon distribution are superior to those receiving the distribution.

Maturity; Redemption

The Series F Preferred Stock has no stated maturity, is not subject to any sinking fund or mandatory redemption. We are entitled to purchase shares of the Series F Preferred Stock in order to preserve our status as a real estate investment trust for federal or state income tax purposes at any time. We may, at our option, redeem the Series F Preferred Stock at \$25 per share (\$195,500,000 in the aggregate), plus accrued and unpaid dividends.

Transfer and Ownership Restrictions

See " Transfer and Ownership Restrictions Relating to our Preferred Stock."

Transfer and Ownership Restrictions Relating to our Common Stock

Our charter contains restrictions on the ownership and transfer of our voting stock that are intended to assist us in complying with the requirements to continue to qualify as a REIT. Subject to limited exceptions, no person or entity may own, or be deemed to own by virtue of the applicable constructive ownership provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, more than 9.