

## ACTION ALERT Update: Ask Your State Legislators to Protect Wisconsin's Caregiver Support Programs

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**SB 152** – Legislation that removes income requirements for the Alzheimer's Family and Caregiver Support Program (AFCSP) to align with the federal National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP) has now been **introduced in the Assembly - AB 176!** Thank you for continuing to reach out to your state legislator to thank them or ask for their support of this important legislation. Removing income-based eligibility requirements from AFCSP will protect \$3.5 million in annual federal NFCSP funding and ensure support remains accessible to all families.

### Take Action:

- 1.) The Senate's **Health Committee** scheduled a public hearing on SB 152 this Wed., April 23 at 1 p.m. (see [hearing notice](#)). The Senate Health Committee members are: [Senator Cabral-Guevara \(Chair\)](#), [Senator Testin \(Vice-Chair\)](#), [Senator James](#), [Senator Smith](#), and [Senator Drake](#). If your state Senator is a member of this committee, please reach out and let them know how you and/or your agency utilize this program to help serve caregivers in your area.
- 2.) **Your contacts to state legislators are making a difference!** There are now **29 legislators signed on** in support of this legislation. **If you have not yet reached out to your state Senator and Assembly Representative, please do so now!** Go to [SB 152](#) to see if your state Senator and/or Assembly Representative are signed on as sponsors/cosponsors on the bill. If yes, please send them a message thanking them for their support of family caregivers. If no, contact them and **ask them to protect family caregiver programs by signing on in support of SB 152**. Let them know how critical family caregiver support is to you, your family, and/or those you serve. Find your representatives at <https://maps.legis.wisconsin.gov/>. For more information regarding this request see: [WAAN's AFCSP Issue Brief](#).

### SB 152/AB 176:

- **Protects Federal Funding:** Secures federal NFCSP dollars vital for caregivers.
- **Supports Care at Home:** Makes resources like adult day care and home modifications available.
- **Reduces Healthcare Costs:** Allows individuals to remain at home longer.
- **Strengthens Family Support:** Ensures no family is left behind.

The federal Older Americans Act family caregiver support program requires a 25% match. Over 50% of Wisconsin counties use the state's AFCSP program to meet the federal match requirement. Federal rules now prohibit the use of income-based eligibility programs, such as the current AFCSP, from being used as match and putting Wisconsin counties out of compliance with federal rules. Without this change to remove the AFCSP income-based eligibility requirements, federal funds essential to caregiver programs across the state are at risk.

### Core member organizations

Aging and Disability Professionals Association of Wisconsin (ADPAW) • Alzheimer's Association Wisconsin Chapter Board on Aging and Long Term Care (BOALTC) • Wisconsin Adult Day Services Association (WADSA) • Wisconsin Association of Area Agencies on Aging (W4A) • Wisconsin Association of Benefit Specialists (WABS) • Wisconsin Association of Nutrition Directors (WAND) • Wisconsin Association of Senior Centers (WASC) • Wisconsin Family and Caregiver Support Alliance (WFACSA) • Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Aging (WIHA) • Wisconsin Senior Advocates • Wisconsin Senior Corps Association (WISCA) • Wisconsin Tribal Aging Unit Association

### Mission

The Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network (WAAN) works with and for all older adults by educating community members and policy makers on priority issues while advocating for meaningful change. Learn more at [gwaar.org/waan](http://gwaar.org/waan).