



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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The **Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network** is a collaborative group of individuals and associations working with and for Wisconsin's older adults to shape public policy to improve their quality of life.

**Core member organizations:**

Aging and Disability Professionals Association of Wisconsin (ADPAW)

Alzheimer's Association SE Wisconsin Chapter

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 Institute for Healthy Aging (WIHA)

Wisconsin Senior Corps Association (WISCA)

Wisconsin Tribal Aging Unit Association

## **WAAN Commends Governor Evers' Veto of AB 76**

(MADISON, WI) – The Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network (WAAN) commends Governor Evers' for vetoing AB 76 and preventing a nearly 40 percent reduction in the required training hours for certified nurse aides (CNAs).

“We are all concerned about the direct care workforce shortage,” said Robert Kellerman, Executive Director of the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources and WAAN Chair, “but have grave concerns about this legislative proposal to reduce the training required for personnel who provide the most basic, intimate care to our state's older adults and citizens with disabilities.”

Studies have demonstrated increased training results in increased job satisfaction and reduced job turnover, which helps address the direct care workforce shortage. More than half the states in the country have chosen to require more than the minimum federal standard of 75 hours for nurse aide training.

The Governor's Task Force on Caregiving has brought together legislators, providers, caregivers, and advocates (including representatives from the aging network) to develop recommendations for attracting and retaining a strong direct care workforce. With so much at stake, it is prudent to wait for the Task Force's recommendations. We look forward to continuing to work together to advance strategies that will address the workforce crisis without potentially putting workers or those they care for at risk.

*The Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network is a collaborative group of 10 statewide associations and numerous individuals working with and for Wisconsin's older adults to shape public policy to improve their quality of life.*

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