



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P. O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

June 24, 2022

U.S. Senator Ron Johnson
328 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin
709 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

U.S. Representative Bryan Steil
1526 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

U.S. Representative Mark Pocan
1727 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

U.S. Representative Ron Kind
1502 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

U.S. Representative Gwen Moore
2252 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

U.S. Representative Scott Fitzgerald
1507 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

U.S. Representative Glenn Grothman
1427 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

U.S. Representative Tom Tiffany
1719 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

U.S. Representative Mike Gallagher
1230 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Honorable Members of the Wisconsin Delegation:

The undersigned Wisconsin State Legislators are writing today to thank you for your past support of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV) and urge your support of a robust and timely reauthorization of the program by September 30, 2022.

As you know, MIECHV is a federal grant program that supports voluntary, evidence-based early childhood home visiting for families from pregnancy through kindergarten entry. In Wisconsin, MIECHV-funded home visiting supports families by promoting interventions to improve maternal and infant health; creating connections between caregivers, the pediatric medical home, and other health practitioners in the community; providing screening for perinatal depression and connecting parents with appropriate community-based behavioral health care; supporting families in their child's early development and learning; providing referrals when certain risk factors, including trauma or domestic violence, are present in the home; providing resources for children who experience trauma and toxic stress; targeting the social determinants of health affecting families; and helping families navigate complex community-based systems of supports.

In Wisconsin, we have seen the positive impact of home visiting programs and the need for more access. As you work together to reauthorize MIECHV, we respectfully request an increase in MIECHV funding to better meet the current need of eligible families and to continue to allow



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virtual home visiting as an option for families. Despite the program's success, MIECHV has not received an increase of funding in nearly a decade. Pre-pandemic estimates show MIECHV reached only three to five percent of eligible families each year. Increasing MIECHV funding will allow more Wisconsin families to access this needed service. Additionally, during the pandemic, Congress adapted home visiting policies to allow for virtual home visits. This program change benefited both participating families and home visiting providers. Going forward, we request that virtual home visiting be permitted as an optional service for families.

The current MIECHV is set to expire on September 30, 2022. In order to ensure that there are no disruptions in home visiting services, we hope that you will take timely action on reauthorizing the MIECHV funding.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alberta Darling
State Senator
8th Senate District

LaTonya Johnson
State Senator
6th Senate District

Joan Ballweg
State Senator
14th Senate District

Patrick Snyder
State Representative
85th Assembly District

Jill Billings
State Representative
95th Assembly District

Melissa Agard
State Senator
16th Senate District

Scott Allen
State Representative
97th Assembly District

Deb Andraca
State Representative
23rd Assembly District



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State Representative
48th Assembly District

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State Senator
23rd Senate District

Janet Bewley
State Senator
25th Senate District

Tim Carpenter
State Senator
3rd Senate District

Sue Conley
State Representative
44th Assembly District

Dave Considine
State Representative
81st Assembly District

Dora Drake
State Representative
11th Assembly District

Jodi Emerson
State Representative
91st Assembly District

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Rick Gundrum
State Representative
58th Assembly District



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State Representative
54th Assembly District

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State Representative
76th Assembly District

André Jacque
State Senator
1st Senate District

Jesse James
State Representative
68th Assembly District

Chris Larson
State Senator
7th Senate District

Howard Marklein
State Senator
17th Senate District

Jeffrey Mursau
State Representative
36th Assembly District

LaKeshia Myers
State Representative
12th Assembly District

Todd Novak
State Representative
51st Assembly District

Tod Ohnstad
State Representative
65th Assembly District

Sylvia Ortiz-Velez
State Representative
8th Assembly District



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State Representative
80th Assembly District

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State Representative
59th Assembly District

Janis Ringhand
State Senator
15th Senate District

Sara Rodriguez
State Representative
13th Assembly District

Kelda Roys
State Senator
26th Senate District

Donna Rozar
State Representative
69th Assembly District

Katrina Shankland
State Representative
71st Assembly District

Kristina Shelton
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90th Assembly District

Christine Sinicki
State Representative
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Jeff Smith
State Senator
31st Senate District

John Spiros
State Representative
86th Assembly District



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78th Assembly District

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Ron Tusler
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Nancy VanderMeer
State Representative
70th Assembly District

Robyn Vining
State Representative
14th Assembly District

Van Wanggaard
State Senator
21st Senate District

Bob Wirsch
State Senator
22nd Senate District