



Wisconsin Personal Services Association, Inc.

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WPSA Thanks Lawmakers for Funding Critical 5% ARPA Increase for HCBS Providers

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The Wisconsin Personal Services Association applauds the Joint Finance Committee for voting to continue the 5% American Rescue Plan Act increase to home and community-based providers for the next biennium. The budget passed by the Committee also includes an estimated 4.3% increase to personal care reimbursement rates in January 2024.

“For the fourth budget in a row, the Joint Finance Committee has approved a rate increase for personal care services,” said WPSA President Linda Bova. “This not only acknowledges the preference of older adults and people with disabilities to receive care in their own homes and communities but also the state’s commitment to addressing the direct care workforce crisis.”

Personal care services are in-home caregiving services that assist older adults and people with disabilities with things like getting out of bed, getting dressed, eating and bathing. Unfortunately, due to the workforce crisis, many individuals in need of care are unable to access services. A 2023 WPSA survey found that 51% of personal care agencies turn away 5 or more people in need of care each month due to not having enough workers.

“WPSA looks forward to working with the Legislature, Governor Evers and the Department of Health Services throughout the 2023-24 Legislative Session to continue advancing policies and regulatory reforms that help address the direct care crisis,” said Bova.

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