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LeadingAge Wisconsin Applauds Joint Finance Committee's Long-Term Care Budget Actions

(Madison, WI) LeadingAge Wisconsin voices its strong support for the actions taken by the Legislature's Joint Finance Committee in advancing a budget that makes significant additional investments in long-term care (LTC) programs and services for skilled nursing facilities and Family Care providers.

Building on the LTC proposals advanced by the Governor, the Committee's budget would increase nursing home and Family Care provider funding by \$356.6 million as part of the 2021-2023 state budget bill. For the LTC providers, and their caregivers and supporting personnel, that represents a historic increase in funding at a time when these investments are so critically necessary.

"The Committee's actions send a resounding message of hope and optimism to long-term care residents, their families and the caregivers who have labored on the frontlines to serve those in need," said John Sauer, LeadingAge Wisconsin President and CEO.

"By all accounts, Wisconsin's long-term care system is facing unprecedented workforce and Medicaid/Family Care funding challenges, threatening the very existence of our care-giving system. These challenges intensified during the pandemic. The budget provisions advanced by the Committee would give our long-term care system the funding shot in the arm it desperately needs," said Sauer.

LeadingAge Wisconsin urges the full Legislature and the Governor to support the LTC funding actions advanced by the Joint Finance Committee.

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LeadingAge Wisconsin, is a mission-driven, not-for-profit, member-supported, statewide association serving as a leader in advancing the field of long-term care through advocacy, education, and the development of collaborative strategies for its members and the general public. All totaled, LeadingAge Wisconsin serves 562 long-term care, assisted living, senior housing, and other community-based providers principally serving older adults and individuals with a disability.