



DEMOCRATIC MEMBERS  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

June 1, 2016

Representative John Nygren and Senator Alberta Darling  
Co-Chairs, Joint Finance Committee  
*Hand-Delivered*

Dear Representative Nygren and Senator Darling,

Over the last year and a half, dozens of stakeholder groups and hundreds, if not thousands, of Wisconsinites have petitioned our offices asking that we do not move forward with Governor Walker's changes to Wisconsin's long-term care programs, Family Care and IRIS.

From the heartfelt testimony at last year's budget listening sessions to the letters and emails our offices have received from those who are scared about their future and uncertain about the care they need to fulfill basic daily tasks that so many of us take for granted – this has been one of the toughest issues before the Legislature in many sessions.

Given the physical challenges that nearly all of these advocates face on a daily basis and the large number of stakeholder groups that have participated in this process, we respectfully request that the Committee give a two-week notice for when the Joint Finance Committee will take up the Department of Health Services' long-term care concept paper for a vote.

Furthermore, given the nearly 60,000 Wisconsinites whose lives will be affected by the changes advanced in this proposal, we have requested that Secretary Rhoades also appear and testify before the Committee when we meet to vote on the long-term care program changes. We wrote her office last month with this request and we have yet to hear from her. A copy of our original letter is attached. We hope that you will support this request.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rep. Chris Taylor  
76<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Rep. Gordon Hutz  
54<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Sen. Lena Taylor  
4<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Sen. Jon Erpenbach  
27<sup>th</sup> Senate District