



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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### **Dane County-Area Legislative Democrats Host Health Care Town Hall**

*Democratic Senators and Assembly Representatives to hear from Dane County constituents about health care at Thursday night town hall event*

MADISON – In partnership with the Democratic Women’s Health Workgroup and local healthcare advocates, Democratic legislators from across Dane County are hosting a health care-focused town hall and listening session tonight in Madison. Legislators from both rural and urban areas of Dane County alike are hoping to provide a forum for area constituents to be heard by their elected officials about their health care questions, concerns, and experiences.

“In this time of uncertainty, having a conversation about health care is more important than ever. Democrats are doing what Republicans refuse to – Listening to the people they represent and putting forward proposals towards the goal of ensuring all Wisconsinites have access to quality health care,” State Representative and Women’s Health Workgroup Co-Chair Chris Taylor (D-Madison) said.

The town hall comes on the heels of attempts to repeal the Affordable Care Act, leaving 23 million people across the country without access to health insurance, and which has also recently regained some momentum with Senator John McCain (R-Ariz.)—the deciding vote against Republicans’ last repeal attempt—[expressing his support for a new repeal effort](#).

“People here are scared,” said State Representative Melissa Sargent (D-Madison). “They’re scared about not being able to afford health insurance, they’re scared about new pre-existing conditions guidelines, and they’re scared about even being able to access health care at all. And what’s worse, the people currently in charge of our state and our country haven’t bothered to show up to hear them out.”

State Representative Lisa Subeck (D-Madison) agreed. “Republicans in Wisconsin have made it through the entire biennial budget process and a vote to leave 23 million people without health insurance without managing to host a single listening session in the second-most populous county in the state, and that’s why tonight’s town hall is so important,” she added. “Dane County residents deserve the opportunity to be heard.”

The town hall will take place tonight, September 7, 2017, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Sequoya Library on Madison’s west side. Constituents will have the opportunity to ask questions and engage in dialogue with their legislators about health care, but a majority of the time will be devoted to the legislators listening and hearing about constituents’ experiences with health care in Wisconsin. Legislators in attendance are members of the Dane County delegation in the Wisconsin State Legislature, many of whom are also members of the Democratic Women’s Health Workgroup, which is committed to ensuring health care is affordable and accessible for women in Wisconsin.

“The health care landscape is experiencing seismic changes on the local, state, and national levels. It is vital that we as policymakers hear the thoughts and concerns of the people these changes will affect,” State Representative Terese Berceau (D-Madison) concluded.

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