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ADAW Thanks Governor Walker for Signing Dementia Bills

Green Bay, WI, March 22, 2016— The ADAW today thanked Governor Walker at the Options for Independent Living offices in Green Bay for signing three important dementia bills.

Assembly Bill 786 requires DHS to design a pilot program for two or more counties to create dementia crisis units.

Assembly Bill 787 provides more respite for family caregivers by increasing the Alzheimer's Family Caregiver Support Program funding by \$1 million annually.

Assembly Bill 790 requires the DHS to award grants in the amount of \$250,000 to counties for their mobile crisis teams to obtain training on recognizing and serving individuals with dementia.

“The Alzheimer's and Dementia Alliance of Wisconsin (ADAW) thanks Governor Walker for signing these important bills,” said Rob Gundermann, Public Policy Director for the ADAW. “This package addresses the lack of respite available for family caregivers, will reduce dependency on facility care and will assist with crisis situations for people with dementia. The ADAW also wishes to thank Representative Mike Rohrkaste, the Chairman of the Speaker's Task Force on Dementia, for his leadership in drafting these bills and ushering them through the legislative process,” Gundermann added.

“Assembly Bills 786 and 790 will substantially address the problems that have been generated by the State Supreme Court ruling regarding Helen E.F and the subsequent issues with placement of people with dementia who exhibit difficult behavioral issues. AB 787 is going to save taxpayers a lot of money over the long term by incentivizing home care over institutional care. This is a good package of legislation,” said Gundermann.

If you would like to be an Alzheimer's Advocate, please visit the ADAW website: alzwissc.org, or contact Rob at: Gundermann@alzwissc.org to sign up for our Action Alerts.

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The mission of the Alzheimer's & Dementia Alliance of Wisconsin is to support individuals, families, and professionals impacted by Alzheimer's disease and other dementias through information, education, consultation, and advocacy; and to promote the advancement of scientific research to better diagnose, treat and ultimately eliminate Alzheimer's disease. Since 1985, our expert staff has been offering compassionate guidance to those affected through every stage of the disease. Our services help people create the best quality of life for those facing a dementia diagnosis. Visit www.alzwissc.org for more information.

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The logo for Health Charities features a stylized sunburst icon to the left of the text 'Proud Member of Health Charities'. Below this, the tagline 'WORKING FOR A HEALTHY WISCONSIN' is written in a smaller font. At the bottom, the contact information 'support@alzwissc.org' and 'www.alzwissc.org' is provided.
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