



# JIM STEINEKE

MAJORITY LEADER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 5<sup>th</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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May 21, 2020

Governor Tony Evers  
P.O. Box 7863  
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Governor Evers:

Over a month ago, I along with legislative colleagues [sent you a letter outlining the priorities we believe are critical in addressing with the federal CARES Act dollars](#) our state has received. In that letter, we outlined the important role our nursing homes and long-term care facilities play in combatting the virus here in Wisconsin, and the struggles they were already facing back in April.

It should come as no surprise that those struggles have not only continued, but in fact escalated, as more and more resources are needed and sacrifices are asked of our caregivers on the frontlines. Unfortunately, the needs of these workers, who protect our communities' most vulnerable, seem to largely have been ignored by your administration.

[I received a letter yesterday from the President and CEO of an elderly care facility](#) in my district that was, quite frankly, alarming. It is my understanding that your office received the letter as well. I'm sure you'll agree that it painted a very grim picture regarding the additional funding we have received through the CARES Act, and the subsequent lack of action in getting those dollars to our nursing homes and long-term care facilities – facilities, [that carry over 40% of the deaths from the coronavirus outbreak](#).

For over two months, LeadingAge Wisconsin (LAWI) and the Wisconsin Health Care Association (WHCA) have asked for emergency funding for long-term care facilities through funding requests, subsequent requests, and re-requests. They have yet to receive any sort of commitment. Just this week, [you announced \\$445 million in funding to hospitals through the CARES Act](#), but nothing for long-term care providers who are equally on the front lines of this crisis.

I'm told your colleagues in the Department of Health Services have yet to invite expert input from LAWI or WHCA when it comes to critical funding discussions – perhaps this is the reason our long-term care facilities have been overlooked for weeks on end?

Our long-term care facilities – the facilities housing our moms, dads, grandparents, and loved ones – need our help. To quote the letter, our hard-working caregivers “are struggling to keep our facilities running without sufficient financial resources and support.” As the person solely in

charge of allocating our federal dollars to the places they're most needed, I urge you to do your job in addressing the mounting needs our elderly care facilities are facing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Steineke". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Representative Jim Steineke  
Assembly Majority Leader