



Dear Member / Guardians,

A Bill to provide **free** online training for guardians (LTB 0143/1) is out for co-sponsorship (see summary below). The co-sponsorship deadline is **Monday February 8th**. If this issue is important to you, **call or e-mail your State Senator and State Representative** (look up [who are my legislators](#)) by February 8th to see if they will co-sponsor LRB 0143/1.

This bill is being reintroduced as it passed the Assembly last year with a broad bi-partisan list of co-sponsors. However, the bill did not make to the Governor's desk before the end of last legislative session.

In this legislative session, we are looking for more co-sponsors for this Bill. We have a strong list of lead authors, if your state senator or representative is listed below, they are already on the bill. We encourage you to thank them for their support.

- Sen. André Jacque
- Sen. Kathy Bernier
- Sen. Van Wanggaard
- Sen. Patrick Testin
- Sen. LaTonya Johnson
- Sen. Janet Bewley
- Sen. Brad Pfaff
- Rep. Shannon Zimmerman
- Rep. Barb Dittrich
- Rep. Jessie Rodriguez
- Rep. Beth Meyers

Quick bill summary: This bill will provide guardians plain language training and support. It provides free online training to family and volunteer guardians about their role, responsibilities, and other important features of Wisconsin's guardianship law before they are appointed.

- Many family members who become a guardian do not fully understand what a guardian's role, responsibilities, and administrative duties are under Wisconsin law. Frequently, guardians feel overwhelmed, unprepared, isolated, and unsupported.

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- The bill will provide free accessible web-based training for potential and current guardians without increasing work for the courts or counties.
- Plain language training is accessible to everyone—including teachers, medical staff, aging and disability resource centers, direct service providers, people with disabilities or older adults--looking to learn more, and family members seeking standardized and accurate information about guardianship and alternatives to guardianship.
- The bill outlines required training topics including alternatives to guardianship, statutory roles/responsibilities/requirements of guardians and rights of wards, and where to go for resources and technical support.

Why does My Choice Wisconsin stress the importance of this Bill

- Guardians who are more prepared and adequately trained will be better advocate for their wards (our members);
- The program will give guardians easy access to reference tools as questions arise regarding duties and responsibilities related to their wards (our members);
- Not only will the Bill be beneficial to natural supports who serve as guardian for their loved ones, but it will also help volunteer guardians who serve wards throughout our organization and the state;
- The program will provide guardians a reference tool at their fingertips that will help avoid delays and uncertainty caused by relying on court personnel for direction or answers.

Once again, the co-sponsorship deadline is **Monday February 8th**. If this issue is important to you, **call or e-mail your State Senator and State Representative** (look up [who are my legislators](#)) by February 8th to see if they will co-sponsor LRB 0143/1.