

The Arc Wisconsin Policy Insiders: Paid Family Medical Leave and ABLE Updates

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The Arc Wisconsin

POLICY INSIDERS

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Paid Family and Medical Leave

What is Paid Family and Medical Leave?

- Mandates paid leave for three different reasons:
 - 1) Your own medical issues
 - 2) The birth or adoption of a child
 - 3) To care for a family member

Nine states (CA, RI, NJ, NY, HI, WA, MA, CT, OR) and the District of Columbia have enacted paid leave

Paid Family and Medical Leave

In order to make Paid Family and Medical Leave accessible for people with disabilities and their families, the policy must be designed correctly:

- 1) Definition of “Family”
- 2) Large Risk Pool
- 3) Intermittent Use
- 4) Job Protection
- 5) Ease of Use

Paid Family and Medical Leave

There is extensive bipartisan Congressional interest:

- Senate Finance Committee Paid Family Leave Working Group
- Sens. Cassidy (R-LA), Hassan (D-NH), Tim Scott (R-SC), Cortez Masto (D-NV), Crapo (R-ID), Casey (D-PA), Young (R-IN) and Brown (D-OH)
- May 8, 2019 House Hearing on Paid Family Leave

New 2019 Report on ABLE

The National Association of State Treasurers:

- Nine (9) additional states have launched ABLE plans
- 42 states and the District of Columbia offer ABLE plans Currently, estimated 8 million eligible individuals
- NAST estimates we need 450,000 funded ABLE accounts by June 2021 to approach self-sustainability and continue to offer ABLE plans with low fees
- This would require an adoption rate of 5.6% by June 2021, which is unlikely

ABLE Age Adjustment Act of 2019

- ABLE Age (S. 651/H.R. 1814) is a bipartisan bill to expand ABLE to cover people with disabilities whose disabilities onset after 26
 - With ABLE Age, 6 million people with disabilities would be newly eligible
 - Many advocates with disabilities who fought for ABLE were not eligible when it was finally signed into law--there is a fairness issue to ensure that those advocates can use the ABLE program

Thank you to
www.wi-bpdd.org
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Thank you!