New Legislation Says Yes to New Federal Investment to Strengthen BadgerCare

Madison: At a media conference at the Capitol on Tuesday, Senator Jon Erpenbach and Rep. Jon Richards announced the Strengthen BadgerCare Act, a bill to take new federal health care reform money to fill the holes in BadgerCare. The media event included stories from Wisconsinites from across the state who currently fall between the cracks in Wisconsin’s highly successful BadgerCare program. There is a growing waiting list of over 146,000 Wisconsinites who lack affordable health insurance options and are currently denied access to BadgerCare.

“Filling the holes in BadgerCare is essential because the health insurance market has failed to provide moderate income Wisconsinites with affordable health insurance options, and low-wage jobs are far less likely to include affordable coverage,” said Robert Kraig, Executive Director of Citizen Action of Wisconsin. “People who lack access to stable and affordable health coverage do not have a fair shot at the American dream. In the 21st Century you do not have the right to life liberty and the pursuit of happiness if you cannot control your own health care decisions or have the peace of mind of knowing that health care will be there when you need it.”

More data and information on why Wisconsin should take the new federal money to strengthen BadgerCare provided by the Affordable Care Act can be found at www.citizenactionwi.org and www.gohealthcarewi.com