

New Poll Shows Wisconsin Public Wants Major Changes to Budget on Health Care

Posted on Mar 17, Posted by [Citizen Action of Wisconsin, Robert Kraig](#) Category [Wisconsin](#)



Poll shows massive public support for Wisconsin to take the enhanced federal funding for BadgerCare rejected in the Governor's budget and for Governor Walker and the Legislature to prepare for the possibility that the U.S. Supreme Court could yank health insurance subsidies from over 183,000 Wisconsinites.

STATEWIDE - This morning Citizen Action of Wisconsin joined Public Policy Polling and members of the Legislature's powerful Joint Finance Committee to release new poll results on key health care issues.

Audio of the release can be accessed [here](#).

The polling shows massive public support for Wisconsin to take the enhanced federal funding for BadgerCare rejected in the Governor's budget. It also shows overwhelming support for Governor Walker and the Legislature to prepare for the possibility that the U.S. Supreme Court could yank health insurance subsidies from over 183,000 Wisconsinites. Both are closely related budget issues. The polling results can be accessed [here](#).

On taking the BadgerCare dollars currently being left on the table by Governor Walker, the public supports taking the money by an overwhelming 31 point margin (58% to 27%).

On the question of taking precautions against a U.S. Supreme Court decision that could endanger health insurance subsidies for over 183,000 Wisconsinites, the public by a 20 point

margin (53% to 33%) thinks it is the Governor's responsibility to take action to prevent anyone from losing their health care. This is a budget issue, because Governor Walker pushed 57,000 people off BadgerCare, and denied access to 81,000 people who would have been eligible, placing them on the federal marketplaces where they are vulnerable to an adverse U.S. Supreme Court decision.

The media call this morning was joined by three members of the Joint Finance Committee, Senator Jon Erpenbach, Representative Gordon Hintz, and Representative Chris Taylor.

"This is not the time to point fingers, we need leaders to step up," said Representative Hintz.

On BadgerCare, Representative Chris Taylor said: "It's a no-brainer. Why wouldn't we take this money to cover more people for less money."

"For the life of me, I can't understand why we have not done this," added Senator Erpenbach. "It is up to Governor Walker to fix the problem, It's the right thing to do."

"It is clear that the Wisconsin public by huge margins supports major revisions to the state budget on health care issues," said Robert Kraig, Executive Director of Citizen Action of Wisconsin. "The public wants Wisconsin to take all the money that is on the table to strengthen BadgerCare, and believes it is Governor Walker's responsibility to take action to safeguard the health coverage of the over 183,000 Wisconsinites at risk from a potentially dangerous U.S. Supreme Court decision."

About the poll: Public Policy Polling surveyed 1,071 registered Wisconsin voters from March 6th to 8th. The margin of error for the survey is +/- 3.0%. 80% of interviews for the poll were conducted over the phone with 20% interviewed over the internet to reach respondents who don't have landline telephones. Full poll results can be accessed [HERE](#)

[Web Link to Release](#)

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