



2025 SENATE BILL 272

May 21, 2025 - Introduced by Senators SPREITZER, CARPENTER, DASSLER-ALFHEIM, DRAKE, HESSELBEIN, KEYESKI, LARSON, RATCLIFF, ROYS and WIRCH, cosponsored by Representatives ROE, ANDERSON, ARNEY, BARE, BILLINGS, BROWN, CRUZ, DESANTO, DESMIDT, DITTRICH, EMERSON, JOERS, MADISON, MIRESE, ORTIZ-VELEZ, PALMERI, RIVERA-WAGNER, SNODGRASS, STUBBS, SUBECK, TENORIO and UDELL. Referred to Committee on Health.

- 1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 46.286 (1) (a) (intro.) of the statutes; **relating to:** eligibility
2 for Family Care for individuals who are deaf-blind.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill grants functional eligibility for Family Care—a program that provides community-based long-term care services—to people who are deaf-blind. Under current law, a person must meet certain criteria in order to be eligible for Family Care, including that the person is at least 18 years of age; the person has a physical or developmental disability or is a frail elder; and the person is both functionally and financially eligible based on the standards described in the statute. The bill adds an express provision that a person is functionally eligible for the Family Care program if the person is deaf-blind, as defined in the bill.

For further information see the state and local fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

- 3 **SECTION 1.** 46.286 (1) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:
4 46.286 (1) (a) *Functional eligibility.* (intro.) A person is functionally eligible

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SECTION 1

1 if the person is deaf-blind, as defined in 29 USC 1905, or if the person's level of care
2 need, as determined by the department or its designee, is either of the following:

3 (END)