

Support Family Caregivers



Illinois Family Caregiver Income Tax Credit House Bill 1376 (Rep. Moeller)

Across Illinois, family caregivers help their parents, spouses and other loved ones live at home—where they want to be—instead of being forced into costly nursing homes. In addition to helping with bathing, dressing, transportation and much more, family caregivers take on financial challenges—paying for expensive care to help their loved ones.

AARP is fighting to bring some financial relief to these family caregivers through a modest caregiver tax credit, the **Illinois Family Caregiver Income Tax Credit, House Bill 1376**.

What is the Illinois Family Caregivers Income Tax Credit?

- HB 1376 would provide a non-refundable income tax credit to help offset the amount of state income taxes owed.
- Eligible family caregivers who pay for expenses out of their own pockets would receive a tax credit up to \$1,500.
- Covered expenses could include, but not limited to:
 - adult day services;
 - transportation;
 - home modifications;
 - legal and financial services;
 - equipment;
 - respite care;
 - home health care aide or personal care attendant; and
 - assistive technology to care for their loved one.
- Eligible family member is at least 18 years of age, resident of the Illinois, requires assistance with at least one activity of daily living, and qualifies as a depended, spouse, parent, relation by blood, marriage, civil union, or any individual with a close relationship equivalent of a family relationship.
- Family caregiver is an unpaid caregiver who is an Illinois resident and has uncompensated eligible expenses. IL Dept. on Aging shall certify caregiver expenses.
- Income limits of \$75,000/year for individuals and \$150,000/year for couples. The bill will ensure family caregivers who need help the most receive it.

Family Caregiving by the Numbers

- ♥ In Illinois, nearly 1.5 million family caregivers provide 1.24 billion hours of unpaid care - valued at \$17 billion annually.
- ♥ Family caregivers nationwide spend nearly 26% of their income, on average, providing care for an older parent, spouse or other loved one—that's nearly \$7,242 out-of-pocket.
- ♥ Nearly 9 in 10 voters (88%) support the establishment of a Family Caregiver Income Tax Credit to assist family caregivers, who incur expenses while taking care of their loved ones.
- ♥ Transportation is the most common expense (83%) for IL caregivers regardless of race or ethnicity.
- ♥ AARP IL survey found current and former IL caregivers are feeling the financial strain from contributing to loved ones care:
 - buying medical equipment (49%)
 - modifying their home or their loved ones' home (40%)
 - buying prescription drugs (38%), or
 - paying for general housing costs (36%).

For more information, contact AARP IL: Courtney Hedderman, 312-420-8981; Lori Hendren, 217-553-9156; or Steve Andersson, 630-234-3951

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