





April 21, 2025

Ohio General Assembly 77 South High Street Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Members of the Ohio General Assembly,

We are writing to express our strong support for the inclusion of the Supporting Family Caregivers Tax Credit Amendment in the biennial budget bill. This vital legislation will provide much-needed financial relief to the countless family caregivers who selflessly dedicate their time and resources to care for their loved ones.

This tax credit will help family caregivers with expenses that help the care recipient live independently, whether in their own home or with the caregiver. Under this proposal, family caregivers who spend at least \$1,000 on qualified caregiver expenses would be eligible for a tax credit up to 30% of those qualified expenses, up to \$2,000.

Family caregivers play an indispensable role in our communities, often sacrificing their own financial stability and personal well-being to ensure the health and safety of their family members. The Supporting Family Caregiver Tax Credit will help alleviate some of the financial burdens these caregivers face, allowing them to continue providing high-quality care without compromising their own financial security.

In Ohio, there are an estimated 1.5 million family caregivers, providing \$21billion worth of unpaid care every year. Without family caregivers' support, many Ohioans would be forced into costly nursing homes with the government and taxpayers paying the bill. Additionally, 61% of family caregivers are also working, balancing their caregiving responsibilities with their professional lives. This credit works two-fold to alleviate workforce shortages; helping to keep the family caregiver in the workforce, while also reducing the strain on direct care workers and nursing homes.

The economic impact of caregiving is significant. Nearly one in five caregivers report high financial strain, with many having to cut back on work hours or leave their jobs entirely. This not only affects their immediate financial stability but also their long-term economic security, as they often deplete their savings and retirement funds to cover caregiving expenses.

We recognize the importance of a healthy and supported workforce, including those who balance caregiving responsibilities with their professional lives. By including the Supporting Family Caregiver Tax Credit in HB96, the budget bill, the General Assembly will be taking a significant step towards supporting the health and economic stability of Ohio's families. Together, we can make Ohio a state where family caregivers are valued, supported, and empowered to continue their essential work without financial hardship.

Thank you for your consideration and please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions

Sincerely,

Jennifer K. Carlson

Jenny Carlson State Director AARP Ohio

Steve Stivers President & CEO Ohio Chamber of Commerce

Parkel K. Winde

Rachel Winder Executive Director Ohio Women's Coalition