

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 22, 2014

The Honorable Scott Walker
Governor of Wisconsin
115 East Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Governor Walker:

I write to request an update on your efforts to transition the Wisconsinites that you removed from BadgerCare coverage to coverage in the Affordable Care Act's Health Insurance Marketplace. According to your latest figures, as a result of the plan you pursued, almost 63,000 vulnerable Wisconsinites will be losing their BadgerCare coverage. However, the announcement on Monday, May 19th fails to tell the people of Wisconsin the most significant effect of your plan: the number of former BadgerCare recipients who you have transitioned to coverage in the federal Marketplace. Without this information, Wisconsin taxpayers cannot hold you accountable to your promise to use Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act Marketplace to cut Wisconsin's uninsured rate in half.

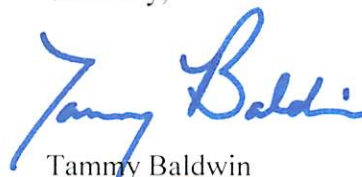
With the May 30 deadline fast approaching for the former BadgerCare recipients to obtain private health coverage in the federal Marketplace, it is imperative that the public be provided an immediate report on how many of these Wisconsinites your Administration has transitioned to the Marketplace to date. As you know, you signed an agreement with the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to establish mechanisms for tracking the nearly 63,000 individuals who were forced to transition from BadgerCare to Marketplace coverage. Now that CMS has provided you with the data needed to report on these individuals, I look forward to the prompt release of these results.

Your decision to reject the federal investment in our BadgerCare program put health coverage for thousands of Wisconsinites at risk, and I continue to be concerned that your plan, which covers fewer people at a higher cost to taxpayers, will result in people becoming uninsured. I am extremely concerned that the Wisconsin families who have lost BadgerCare coverage will not be able to obtain the coverage they deserve by the end of May. To ensure that your plan will not create a gap in coverage for Wisconsin, it is critical that we know if the nearly 63,000 of our fellow citizens have seamlessly transitioned from BadgerCare to the Marketplace before the end of the month.

As such, I ask again that you abide by the conditions in your agreement with CMS and provide an immediate public report on how many Wisconsinites you have successfully transitioned to Marketplace coverage provided by the Affordable Care Act.

I look forward to receiving your updates. As always, I am happy to work together to ensure that Wisconsin families receive the quality, affordable health coverage they deserve.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator