



October 18, 2017

Members of Rehabilitation for Wisconsin in Action, the largest employment provider association in the state, are committed to supporting the goals of individuals with disabilities to achieve Competitive Integrated Employment and we therefore support the intent of LRB-0753, the Employment First bill.

We also support, and this bill affirms, the ability of an individual to access the services of their choice, including facility based programs, sheltered workshops, enclaves, Ability One employment and work through the State Use program. We have worked with the bill's authors to ensure that this choice remain available and intact for all Wisconsin's residents.

We strongly support the provision in the bill that requires the Department of Health Services to outline a study regarding the impact of changing employment policies and practices. We will continue to work to ensure that the array of services available to individuals are enhanced and that people with disabilities continue to have access to high quality supports that help them live their lives and achieve their goals.

Sincerely,

Lincoln J. Burr

Lincoln J. Burr
Executive Director