



PROFESSIONAL INSURANCE AGENTS OF WISCONSIN, INC.

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September 18th, 2023

The Honorable Tony Evers
Governor of Wisconsin
P.O. Box 7863
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Governor Evers,

This past week, the Wisconsin State Senate passed Assembly Bill 109, relating to personal literacy education for high school graduation. With this action by the Senate, the bill now comes to you for final consideration. The Professional Insurance Agents of Wisconsin is a non-profit trade association representing independent agents and agencies across the state. Education is one of the guiding pillars of our association, making this legislation of particular importance to us and our membership. We strongly support the swift enactment of this legislation and urge you to sign it into law.

Assembly Bill 109 would add one-half credit of personal financial literacy education to current requirements in order to qualify for high school graduation. It is our belief that requiring this education will give students a base level of practical knowledge important for financial decision making.

Financial literacy is a fundamental life skill that students are learning too late when their decision making has long-lasting implications. Irresponsible financial decisions such as accumulating debt or driving without adequate insurance, can cause irreparable damage to someone's financial future. Not only can driving without insurance cause personal financial ruin in the case of an accident, but it also has a severe negative impact on other Wisconsinites using our roads.

The proposed coursework would require students to learn about saving, money management, credit, debt, risk management, and insurance, which are all extremely important to getting a financially responsible start to adulthood. Imparting this knowledge does not guarantee responsible behavior, but it will give students the basic tools to make empowered financial decisions for their future.

The Professional Insurance Agents of Wisconsin urges you to sign Assembly Bill 109 into law and help Wisconsin's students make strides in their personal financial literacy. Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Pete Hanson
Executive Director
PIA of Wisconsin