



**Wisconsin Council of the  
Blind & Visually Impaired**

# **ACCESSIBILITY**

Prevent discrimination and promote full community inclusion of people with disabilities.

## **BUDGET ITEMS**

### **Broadband Access:**

WCBVI supports initiatives to expand broadband access across Wisconsin. This will ensure that residents with vision loss can access telehealth, delivery services, work and other technology-based services.

### **Accessible Government Websites:**

The Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) has made progress recently working with state agencies to make their websites accessible. However, the State Senate and Assembly websites remain inaccessible to users with vision impairment. This severely inhibits our ability to monitor legislation and participate actively in the lawmaking process. The Council urges the Legislature to provide funding to remedy this problem and bring the legislative websites into compliance with accessibility standards.

## Establish a Tax Credit for Purchases of Access Technology and Other Adaptive Equipment:

Because it is not considered “durable medical equipment,” most adaptive equipment used by individuals with vision loss is not covered by insurance. As a result, they must pay for access technology devices and other adaptive equipment out of pocket. A tax credit would enable many people for whom these items are prohibitively expensive to purchase adaptive equipment that empowers them to live independently and with dignity.

## LEGISLATIVE ITEMS

### ID Equity:

Revise statutory language to ensure that a State ID is the equivalent of a driver’s license for ALL identification purposes that are not related to driving.