Nearly 840,000 Hoosiers care for older parents, spouses or loved ones, helping them to live independently at home. These family caregivers have a huge responsibility, and on January 1, 2016, a new law took effect that will make life a little bit easier for them.

The CARE (Caregiver Advise, Record, Enable) Act helps family caregivers when their loved ones go into the hospital and as they transition home. Under the CARE Act, Indiana hospitals:

- Must allow patients to designate a caregiver in their medical record;
- Must notify the designated caregiver in certain situations when the patient is discharged; and
- Are encouraged to explain to the caregiver any medical tasks—such as medication management, injections and wound care—that will need to be performed for the patient at home.

AARP Indiana fought for the CARE Act because supporting caregivers is a top priority for all of us. We hope you will cut out the card below and fold it around your insurance card to keep in your wallet. That way, you’ll have important information about this new law available when you need it most.

For more information about caregiving resources, visit aarp.org/in or call 1-866-448-3618. To share your caregiving story, visit aarp.org/iheartcaregivers.