Family caregivers in Iowa now have more support.

The Iowa CARE Act.

More than 317,000 Iowans care for older parents, spouses or other loved ones, helping them to live independently at home. These family caregivers have a huge responsibility, and starting July 1, 2019, a new law helps make life a little bit easier for them.

The Iowa CARE (Caregiver Advise, Record, Enable) Act helps family caregivers when their loved ones go into the hospital and as they transition home. It requires hospitals to offer Iowans the opportunity to:

- Record the name of the patient’s designated family caregiver upon admission.
- Keep that caregiver informed of their loved one’s discharge plans.
- Discuss the caregivers’ abilities and limitations.
- Provide education and instruction of aftercare tasks—such as medication management, injections, wound care, and transfers—that the family caregiver will perform at home.

AARP Iowa went to work at the Capitol to make the Iowa CARE Act a reality, 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/ia or aarp.org/caregiving.

To share your caregiving story, visit aarp.org/iheartcaregivers.

The Iowa CARE Act requires hospitals to offer the opportunity to:

- Record your name on the medical record of your loved one.
- Inform you when your loved one is to be discharged to their home.
- Discuss your abilities and limitations as a caregiver.
- Give you education and instruction of aftercare tasks you will need to perform at home.

For more information and caregiving resources, visit aarp.org/ia.