**Sample Script for Calling Your Legislators**

Calling your legislators may seem like a scary thing.  But you can do this!

Remember this is an issue you know very well because you use the IRIS program every day!

If you need contact information for your legislators then go to <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/> and type in your address. You can also call the Legislative Hotline at **1-800-362-9472.**

Pick up that phone and call!   Remember to be respectful, it's about having allies!

**\*Here are some ideas of what to say to legislators when calling:**

Hi, my name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

I live in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

I am calling because I am very concerned about the proposed budget's plan to eliminate the IRIS program.

IRIS is important to me because\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

(Tell them briefly how IRIS has made a difference in your life.)

**Here are some other ideas of things you can say. Make this your own! Your story is powerful!**

-- I use IRIS to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. FILL IN WHAT TYPES OF WAYS YOU USE IT: to hire people who provide care for you/to help you around your home; to provide transportation; to help you on a job, etc.

-- If the IRIS program were to go away, I am afraid that\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

(FILL IN WHAT YOUR FEARS ARE): you would lose control in your life; your supports would be provided by strangers; your supports would cost more money; you wouldn't be able to lead the life you have now; the quality of your life/your ability to stay in your home/ your independence/your ability to remain independent are at stake.

-- Ask your Senator/Representative to **please take the elimination of IRIS out of the budget**. Say you and people you know have lots of questions, and this big decision deserves more time and study.