



John Nygren

WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE ★ 89TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Senate Bill 716 Testimony
State Rep. John Nygren
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Thank you Chair Vukmir and members of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services for holding a public hearing on Senate Bill 716.

This piece of legislation is an extension of the HOPE Agenda (Heroin, Opioid Prevention and Education). Our goal with the HOPE Agenda this session is to continue to address what many people believe to be the root of our state's heroin problem: prescription drug abuse and addiction. Studies show that, in many cases, heroin addiction begins with an addiction to prescription painkillers. Whether these medications are obtained legally or not, we need to do our best to curtail the illegal use of these dangerous substances. It is for this reason that I am offering additional HOPE Agenda bills that are aimed at fighting prescription drug abuse in Wisconsin.

Senate Bill 716 creates reporting requirements for the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP). The data collected will be reviewed and evaluated by the Controlled Substances Board (CSB) to determine the effectiveness of the PDMP and to compare actual outcomes with projected outcomes.

I appreciate the opportunity to testify before your committee today on these important pieces of legislation and welcome any questions you may have at this time.