



Jeremy Thiesfeldt

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 52nd ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Hariah Hutkowski

Phone: 608-266-3156

Rep. Thiesfeldt's Pharmacist Bills Signed into Law

Madison – Today, Governor Walker signed into law Assembly Bill (AB) 865 and AB 866, bills authored by Rep. Jeremy Thiesfeldt. AB 865 will now allow pharmacists to administer injections of non-vaccine medication at all times instead of for only teaching purposes. AB 866 will save time and money for patients, pharmacists, and doctors by allowing pharmacists, unless explicitly instructed otherwise by the prescriber, to convert non-controlled substance drugs from a 30-day supply to a 90-day supply for prescription refills.

Rep. Thiesfeldt stated, “Many thanks to Governor Walker, co-author Sen. Leah Vukmir, the Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin, and the legislature to move these two bills swiftly through the bill process. These laws will help improve patient care, provide more accountability through reporting of injections to the doctors, and give more freedom and cost savings to patients. These bills are a win for both the patients and professionals.”

The thrust of AB 865 extends the authority of pharmacists to administer injections as long as they have completed a training course in injection technique. Up until now, they were only allowed to show patients how to self-administer an injection. This bill also requires a pharmacist or pharmacy staff to notify the prescriber of each injection.

AB 866 states that if the prescriber writes a prescription with numerous refills, a pharmacist should be able to use his/her judgment in changing the interval in which a patient picks up that prescription. This does not include schedule 2 controlled substances which have no allowable refills.

Studies show that when patients pick up a three month supply of medications versus a one month supply, they have improved adherence to their medications and higher satisfaction. Studies also show cost savings to the patient and health plan when 3 months of a maintenance medication is dispensed versus one month. For example, patients will often pay less for copays, and plans have demonstrated savings when adding a ‘90-day at retail pharmacy benefit’ to their existing ‘30-day at retail pharmacy benefit’ and ‘90-day mail order benefit.’

Thiesfeldt concluded, “These two cost and time saving measures will be a welcome addition for prescribers, patients, and pharmacists.”

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