



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 02, 2015

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Lawmakers Introduce CPR Education Bill

Madison, WI... Today, Senator Jerry Petrowski (*R-Marathon*) and Representative John Spiros (*R-Marshfield*) introduced a bill aimed at helping to ensure that our youth receive life-saving CPR information and skills as part of their health education class in school.

“This past March, a constituent of ours suffered a massive heart attack while riding his bike,” said Senator Petrowski. “Without the quick thinking and action of three CPR-trained teenagers who happened to be nearby, he would not have survived. Time is of the essence in situations like this, and ensuring that our youth are getting this crucial, hands-on, education will equip them to be ready to respond in an emergency,” says Petrowski.

Effective bystander CPR provided immediately after cardiac arrest can double or triple a victim’s chance of survival, but less than half of witnessed cardiac arrest victims are lucky enough to get CPR from a bystander. This is especially problematic because for each minute that passes without CPR initiated, chances of survival drop by 10%. With EMS response times exceeding 10 minutes in many areas of Wisconsin, the need for trained bystanders is even greater.

“I was honored to present those three teenagers with a Hometown Hero Award earlier this year,” said Spiros. “There is a significant need for laypeople like you and me to be trained and ready to step in until professionals arrive, just as those boys did. With this bill, Wisconsin will be the 28th state to pass this important legislation.”

The bill is expected to be introduced in both the State Senate and Assembly houses following the conclusion of the co-sponsorship period on November 16th.