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Assembly Republicans Unveil Medical Cannabis Proposal

SOUTH MILWAUKEE, Wis. – Rep. Jessie Rodriguez (R-Oak Creek) joined her Southeastern Wisconsin Assembly Republican colleagues in a press conference on Monday morning to unveil a bill that will legalize medical cannabis in Wisconsin.

"For a few years now, our constituents have been asking us for a thoughtful, well-regulated medical cannabis program for Wisconsin's patients," began Rodriguez. "That's what we are proposing today."

Rep. Rodriguez has long been a champion for medical freedom, authoring a proposal last session to license naturopathic doctors in Wisconsin. That proposal became law, and is currently going through the administrative rules process to get licensing off the ground.

LRB-2858 creates a medical cannabis program in Wisconsin that ensures patient access to treatment while safely regulating the production and distribution of the product. Under the bill, prescribers who have a bona-fide relationship with a patient would be able to certify if a patient has a qualifying condition. From there, a patient will be able to register with the state and go to one of five state-run dispensaries, where a licensed pharmacist will consult on dosage and dispense the drug to a patient or designated caregiver. The bill allows medical cannabis concentrates, oils, tinctures, edibles, pills, topical forms, gels, creams, vapors, patches, liquids, or forms administered by a nebulizer.

"I have spent many phone calls with a constituent of mine named Joe, whose wife is suffering with stage 4 lung cancer. Joe's been asking for us to pass legislation to legalize the medical use of cannabis to help his wife. I hope the Senate and Gov. Evers can join us in this cause so that we can help people like them," concluded Rep. Rodriguez.

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