



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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Legislation Providing \$15 Million to Protect ER Capacity in Chippewa Valley Passes Legislature *The Legislation is now on to the Governor's Desk*

Madison – Republican legislators from across the Chippewa Valley are thrilled to announce that vital money for our area's emergency departments passed the legislature and is on its way to the governor's desk. This legislation allocates \$15 million to help increase emergency room capacity in the Chippewa Valley in response to the departure of HSHS from the region.

“This \$15 million is critical for our area. Chippewa Falls is soon to be without a hospital which will affect thousands of people throughout Northwestern Wisconsin,” said Rep. Rob Summerfield (R-Bloomer). “I am hopeful that the governor will understand the urgency of this situation and sign this legislation to get these necessary funds to our area as soon as possible.”

“I was honored to vote yes on this legislation that will provide funding for emergency medical services to the Chippewa Valley,” added Rep. Treig Pronschinske (R- Mondovi). “This is a much-needed tool in this desperate situation. I hope Governor Evers will choose humanity over politics and sign this bill into law so we can provide necessary support to the thousands of people affected by the devastating closure of HSHS.”

Representative Warren Petryk (R-Town of Washington) stated, "Today's vote will provide the Chippewa Valley with additional financial resources to help restore Emergency Room capacity and ensure that this critical service will be available to people in need. There is no doubt that this vote will help save lives and benefit the wonderful people of our community. I'd also like to thank my fellow Representatives who voted in favor of both of these bills which will undoubtedly help our communities begin to heal from the recent loss of two hospitals."

“As chair of the Assembly Committee on Health, Aging, and Long-Term Care, I am proud to co-author this legislation with my fellow members representing Western Wisconsin. We all know how necessary emergency health services are,” Rep. Moses (R-Menomonie) concurred. “I am hopeful that Governor Evers realizes the urgency of ensuring healthcare access to those of us who live in Western Wisconsin.”

Representative Karen Hurd (R-Fall Creek) added, “The loss of the emergency room services provided by St. Joseph’s Hospital in Chippewa Falls and Sacred Heart Hospital in Eau Claire is devastating. This legislation provides \$15 million to address the serious need of emergency room services which is a critical stopgap to save lives until a longer term solution can be affected.”

This legislation is now on to Governor Ever’s desk to await his signature.

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