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## Representative Wichgers Votes to Help, Not Harm, Transgender Youth Bill would protect youth and prevent medical experimentation

Madison – Affirming the biological differences of male and female, Representative Chuck Wichgers voted today in favor of legislation that recognizes the harmful effects of surgical and hormonal therapies for minors experiencing gender dysphoria.

Assembly Bill 465 "prohibits a health care provider from medically or surgically acting on a minor for the purpose of changing the minor's body to correspond to a sex that is discordant to the minor's biological sex."

Rep. Wichgers issued the following comments:

"Today we are looking at the painful problem of gender dysphoria in our kids. Studies show that 88% of gender dysphoric girls and 98% of gender dysphoric boys resolve their dysphoria following puberty with psychological support.

"One study of adults who underwent sex-reassignment surgery showed a completed suicide rate 19 times that of the general population 10 years out. The preponderance of evidence – the overwhelming amount of strong scientific evidence – show that adolescents who receive gender hormone treatment have *more* suicidal ideation, and *more* suicide attempts than adolescents who do not get this therapy.

"If we are fighting for the safety and health of our kids, why would the Legislature *not* enact a law that bans a "therapy" that is 19 times more likely to cause suicide?

"I voted for this bill because we want public policy in Wisconsin that safeguards the mental and physical health of our kids – not treats them as guinea pigs."

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The 82rd Assembly District includes the City of Franklin, the eastern portion of the City of Muskego, and the Village of Greendale.