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## State Assembly Passes Rep. Billings' Bill to Legalize Xylazine Testing Strips

Madison – Today the Wisconsin State Assembly unanimously passed Senate Bill 875, which legalizes Xylazine test strips. Rep. Billings released the following statement:

"The Assembly has taken an important step forward to help prevent overdoses by unanimously passing SB 875. This legislation has been one of my priorities as the legislative session comes to a close. I am thankful that Dr. Christopher Eberlein, an Emergency Medicine specialist at the Gundersen Health System, brought this issue of xylazine overdoses to by attention and asked for this legislation."

"Xylazine, which has no approved human use and has been found mixed with fentanyl across Wisconsin, causes overdoses that cannot be reversed by medications like Naloxone. The first fatal overdose linked to xylazine in La Crosse occurred last October, and xylazine has tragically contributed to hundreds of overdoses across the state. While the legislature legalized fentanyl test strips last year, xylazine test strips are not yet permitted. This bill would build on that effort and legalize xylazine test strips."

"Enacting this legislation will help prevent overdoses and save lives. I am glad that this bill was unanimously supported by my colleagues and I hope that we can continue this good work by passing more bills focused on protecting public health."

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