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REPRESENTATIVE • 97<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

February 23, 2021

**Testimony before the Senate Committee on Education  
On Senate Bill 95 / AB 82, relating to: Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness**

Chairwoman Darling, Vice-Chair Bernier, members of the Committee, good morning, and thank you for permitting me to testify today on Senate Bill 95 /Assembly Bill 82, relating to sudden cardiac arrest awareness.

In 2019, Waukesha tragically lost one of our own - a student athlete by the name of Kai Lerner. Kai had an undiagnosed heart condition known as 'Wolff Parkinson's White Syndrome.' In a few minutes, Kai's parents, family, and friends will share more of Kai's story. I'm grateful for Kai's family, who are choosing to turn a painful tragedy into something positive for other parents and families.

Perhaps the most troubling part of Kai's passing is that he was so young and that his condition was undetected. Knowledge, they say, is power. Kai and his parents did not have the knowledge to ask the right question to the right doctors.

We are here today to help fix that gap in knowledge.

Senate Bill 95 / Assembly Bill 82 is modeled after Wisconsin's Youth Athlete Concussion Law. It requires the Department of Public Instruction, in consultation with the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association, to develop an information sheet about sudden cardiac arrest. The information provided would include the risks associated with participation in a youth athletic activity after experiencing a sudden cardiac arrest symptom, the potential risks and benefits of electrocardiogram (ECG/EKG) testing, and that a person can request an ECG from their health care provider, at their expense.

This information sheet will be provided to and signed by participants and parents or guardians of those participants 18 years of age or younger.

Thank you again for hearing this bill today. I hope that parents and participants in youth sports will utilize this knowledge, get the simple test, and prevent future tragedies.

I'm happy to answer any questions you have about the bill.