



John Nygren

WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE ★ 89TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Finance

Rep. Nygren Statement on JFC Passage of TAD Program Legislation

Madison – Friday, Rep. John Nygren (R-Marquette) released the following statement regarding the Joint Committee on Finances approval of the most recent Treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD) Program legislation:

“TAD programs provide an opportunity for non-violent individuals who are suffering from substance abuse the ability to avoid jail or prison confinement. More often than not, this can be the deciding factor as to if an individual returns to confinement. TAD programs are an effective way of treating addiction while at the same time saving bed space and taxpayer dollars. It is truly a win-win situation for the Wisconsin taxpayer.

According to a University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute study, for every dollar invested in TAD programs, the state saves \$1.96 in correction costs. Additionally, the same study found a TAD graduate is nine times less likely to return to state prison than other offenders.

While we have taken significant steps to expand TAD programs statewide, the current levels of funding were not sufficient to meet the demand of TAD programs. A total of eight TAD projects were denied due to a lack of funding. By passing this legislation, we are one step close to alleviating that problem.

I am happy to see that this legislation received bipartisan support, and I look forward to continuing to work towards finding ways to help those with substance abuse issues.”

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