

The
FELZKOWSKI FLYER



WISCONSIN'S 12TH SENATE DISTRICT

MY PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGER (PBM) BILL PASSES SENATE

Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) are businesses that administer and manage prescription drug benefits. Because of the contracts they negotiate with manufacturers, health plans, and pharmacies, PBMs play a crucial role in the prescription drug supply chain, including influencing pricing and drug selection. Despite this role, some PBM practices actually make it more difficult for patients to get the medications they need at a reasonable price, and inflict undue harm on pharmacies, which in turn also negatively affects patients.

In the United States, close to 95% of Americans have plans managed by PBMs. Despite managing plans funded by taxpayer dollars, there are currently almost no guidelines for PBMs at the state level. This legislation will put necessary parameters in place that ultimately best serve the patient.

The bill passed 30-1 on the Senate Floor. It now heads to the Assembly for a vote before the full body. If approved, it will be placed on Governor Evers' desk to be signed into law. You can read my entire press release [here!](#)

FEBRUARY 23, 2021

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GOVERNOR'S BUDGET PROPOSAL

Last week, Governor Evers gave his 2021-23 budget proposal address that outlined his asks for the Legislature's Biennial Budget.

His budget included many non-starters like repealing Act 10 and Right to Work, as well as some more favorable proposals like investing in broadband and long term care. You can look through the Governor's Budget in Brief [here](#).

What's Next?

Early/Mid March: My office will hold listening sessions to get your opinion (we'll let you know when we have dates)

Mid/Late March: The Joint Committee on Finance (JFC) will hold agency briefings and public hearings around the state

April & June: JFC will vote on budget provisions

End of June: Budget should be complete
Following Passage: Governor Evers can veto, line-item veto, or pass it

2021 WOLF HUNT BEGAN YESTERDAY

Good luck to all of the hunters who received wolf harvest tags for the six day wolf hunt taking place between February 22nd-28th.

The DNR received 27,151 wolf harvest applications. There are 2,380 harvest authorizations available for purchase for applicants who are eligible to obtain a license and carcass/pelt tag.

The Natural Resources Board unanimously voted for a harvest quota of 200 wolves outside reservation lands. 119 of the wolves are allocated to the state and 81 are allocated to the Ojibwe Tribes at their request, within the Ceded Territory.

It's great to know that Wisconsin's wolf population will once again be managed by our state Department of Natural Resources. Our scientists on the ground are better fit to manage the resources of Wisconsin than a judge in Washington D.C..

IF YOU HAVE COMMENTS OR CONCERNS ON CERTAIN BUDGET PROVISIONS, LET MY OFFICE KNOW!

NOT ONE GAME BIRD OR GAME ANIMAL UNDER MANAGEMENT OF THE WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, IN MODERN TIMES, EVER CAME CLOSE TO EXTINCTION.



OUR FIRST COMMITTEE HEARING

Last week I chaired our first public hearing in the Senate Committee on Insurance, Licensing, and Forestry.

Our committee heard testimony from members of the public who have been appointed by the Governor to sit on the numerous licensing boards located within the Department of Safety and Professional Services.

Our committee also heard testimony on the following four bills:

SB 10: Relating to qualifications for certified public accountants

SB 14: Relating to justices or judges authorized to officiate a marriage

SB 74: Relating to regulation of home inspectors and extending the time limit for emergency rule procedures

SB 77: Relating to the practice of psychology and extending the time limit for emergency rule procedures

RE-INTRODUCED DENTAL THERAPY

This bill seeks to increase access to care, especially for the 1.2 million Wisconsin residents currently living in areas with dental access shortages. The bill provides for the licensure of dental therapists who are members of the dental care team serving under the supervision of a dentist that would be able to engage in limited practices of dentistry, such as fillings and sealants.

As in other health care fields, dental therapists serve as a mid-level provider, like nurse practitioners and physician assistants. Providing dental practices the option to include these well-trained dental professionals in their dental teams will allow for increased access, lower practice costs, and savings for the state, all without compromising quality of care.

I've been working on this legislation for the past couple sessions and am happy to announce that this time around the Wisconsin Dental Association does not oppose the bill.

YOU CAN FOLLOW ALONG WITH MY COMMITTEE AND EVERYTHING WE'RE DOING HERE!

DENTAL THERAPISTS RECEIVE THE SAME TRAINING AS DENTISTS FOR THE PROCEDURES THEY ARE ALLOWED TO PERFORM WITHIN THEIR SCOPE



JOINT AUDIT COMMITTEE APPROVES ELECTION AUDIT

Last week, the Joint Audit Committee approved the scope for a very thorough audit of the November 2020 election. The committee, which is made up of members from both houses, has asked the auditors to examine the following issues:

1. Usage of indefinitely confined status and compliance with statutes
2. Absentee ballot request/collection processes and security issues
 - a. Ballot drop boxes and Democracy in the Park events
 - b. Allegations of clerks filling in missing information and “curing” a ballot
3. Voter registration process and maintenance of voter registration records
4. Ineligible voters - deceased, moved out-of-state, felons
 - a. ERIC movers list
 - b. Incorrect data on myvote.wi.gov
 - c. Electronic voting equipment and the WEC post-election audit
5. Wisconsin Elections Commission practices
 - a. Has WEC issued guidance to local clerks advising them to do something in violation of the statutes
 - b. Complaints received by the Elections Commission and how they were handled
6. Recount procedures and verification of reimbursement requests
7. Use of third-party election grant funding by municipalities

The audit will be conducted by the nonpartisan Legislative Audit Bureau and will give us an insight as to where any holes are in our election process. Election integrity is extremely important and Wisconsinites need to know that their vote will count. I look forward to seeing the results and fixing any issues that may arise.

**“A MAN WITHOUT A VOTE IS A MAN WITHOUT
PROTECTION.” - LYNDON B JOHNSON**

