



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Sen. Mark Spreitzer, 608-266-2253

Sen. Mark Spreitzer Joins Legislative Democrats to Introduce Marijuana Legalization Bill

TOWN OF PLEASANT SPRINGS – Today, Senator Mark Spreitzer (D-Beloit) and Representative Jenna Jacobson (D-Oregon) joined Representative Darrin Madison (D-Milwaukee), Senator Melissa Agard (D-Madison), and legislative Democrats to introduce a bill to legalize marijuana in Wisconsin at Country Life Hemp Farms.

Senator Spreitzer released the following statement:

“I was proud to join my Democratic colleagues today to call for the legalization of marijuana in Wisconsin. I appreciate Senator Agard’s longtime leadership on this issue.

“Wisconsin is losing out on millions in tax dollars each year because recreational marijuana is legal just over the border in Illinois, Minnesota, and Michigan, but not here. That is especially clear in border communities like those in our district. Last session, we introduced this bill at a dispensary in South Beloit, IL. Since then, we have continued to see Wisconsinites traveling out of the state to legally purchase marijuana – with their tax dollars traveling with them.

“The vast majority of Wisconsinites support legalizing marijuana. A statewide poll in October 2022 found 64% of registered voters in Wisconsin support legalization. In the 15th Senate District, nearly 70% of Rock County residents voted in favor of legalization in a November 2018 referendum and nearly 82% of Dane County residents supported legalization in a November 2022 referendum.

“23 states – including our neighbor Minnesota most recently – have legalized recreational marijuana. From growing our economy to reforming our criminal justice system to relieving pain, there are countless reasons to legalize marijuana. It is past time for the Wisconsin legislature to act, and I will continue to push for this important bill.

“No matter where you live in Wisconsin, you can help keep the momentum going. Call your legislators and ask them to co-sponsor the bill, write op-eds or letters to the editor to share your support, and tell your friends and family about the bill. If you have friends or relatives in Republican legislative districts throughout Wisconsin, it is especially important to encourage them to contact their legislators. Republican leaders in the legislature have previously refused to bring marijuana legalization forward for a vote, but together we can build the bipartisan support across the state necessary to legalize marijuana.

15th SENATE DISTRICT

608-266-2253 | Sen.Spreitzer@legis.wisconsin.gov | www.SenSpreitzer.com

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Photos from the press conference are attached to this release.

IMG_0139: Hemp plants ready for harvest at Country Life Hemp Farms.

IMG_0141: Sen. Mark Spreitzer stands with hemp plants.

IMG_6598: Sen. Melissa Agard (center) speaks at the podium with Sen. Mark Spreitzer (front left), Rep. Ryan Clancy (back left), Rep. Melissa Ratcliff (center left), Rep. Darrin Madison (center right) and Rep. Jenna Jacobson (right).