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## Senator Agard and Democratic Colleagues Introduce Mental Healthcare is Healthcare Legislative Package

MADISON – Today, Senate Democratic Leader Melissa Agard (D-Madison) and her Democratic colleagues introduced a package of bills to fund mental healthcare access for K-12 and UW students. Senator Agard released the following statement:

"Right now, Wisconsin faces a quiet, simmering mental health crisis that, if left unaddressed, will have devastating consequences for future generations. It affects how much our children learn in the classroom and how prepared they are for the future, and whether our university students can excel in their studies and be ready to join a workforce asking more and more of them. Wisconsin's future well-being depends on the well-being of its younger generations.

"I am proud to introduce this bill package with my Democratic colleagues to take on one of the most pressing crises facing Wisconsin. It's past time our state makes these crucial investments in the health and welfare of young Wisconsinites. Mental healthcare is healthcare, and we ought to treat it as such."

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Senator Melissa Agard was elected by her colleagues to serve as Senate Democratic Leader in November of 2022. Senator Agard represents the 16th Senate District, encompassing Sun Prairie, Cottage Grove, Monona, Fitchburg, McFarland, and parts of Madison.