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Senator Agard and Legislative Democrats Renew the Call to Expand BadgerCare in Wisconsin, Lower Rx Costs, and Increase Health Insurance Options

MADISON – Today, Legislative Democrats introduced legislation to address the rising costs of prescription medicine, create a BadgerCare public option for childless individuals earning between 133-200% of the FPL, and expand Medicaid coverage to thousands of Wisconsinites. Senate Democratic Leader Melissa Agard (D-Madison) released the following statement:

"Every person in Wisconsin deserves the right to access quality and affordable healthcare. The bills Legislative Democrats introduced today will help Wisconsinites keep money in their pockets, while increasing their ability to access health care and afford prescription drugs.

"No person should have to choose between putting food on their table and necessary medical care. Capping the cost of insulin is just one of many solutions being proposed today. The Biden Administration successfully capped insulin costs for seniors on Medicare this year and we have the ability to replicate this policy at the state-level, impacting nearly 500,000 Wisconsinites living with diabetes.

"Furthermore, expanding BadgerCare will not only provide tens of thousands of Wisconsinites with quality health care, but also improve our state's fiscal outlook and build financial security for working individuals and families. Expanding Medicaid is not a partisan issue -40 Red and Blue states have already advanced this policy. This is an issue about caring for your friends and neighbors, increasing healthcare access, and improving health outcomes.

"Legislative Democrats are working for Wisconsin, and the bills introduced today provide comprehensive and effective solutions to our state's health care needs, putting working families and individuals first."

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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.