



PRESS RELEASE

November 5th, 2019

Bill to Expand Immunization Access Passes State Senate

Legislation Authored by Sen. Testin, Rep. Kurtz Cuts Red Tape, Expands Options for Pharmacists

Madison, WI – A bill that will help improve access to health services passed the State Senate with broad bi-partisan support on Tuesday. Assembly Bill 137 (AB 137), authored by Senator Patrick Testin (Stevens Point) and Representative Tony Kurtz (Wonewoc), eliminates unnecessary regulation and enables pharmacists to provide immunizations to children under the age of six if certain conditions are met.

“I’m proud to author this bill, which has garnered broad support across the medical community,” said Senator Testin. “It’s important to me that people in every part of Wisconsin have access to immunization services, and this bill helps even that playing field.”

Additionally, the bill enables pharmacists and pharmacy students supervised by pharmacists to give vaccines that are listed on the Center for Disease Control's immunization schedules.

“Working parents in rural areas have often been forced to take time off from work to have their children immunized,” said Rep. Kurtz. “This bill eliminates overregulation to give these families another option that is often more convenient to get their children immunized.”

The bill, which passed the Assembly this summer, now needs only the Governor’s signature to become law.

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