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STATE SENATOR

PRESS RELEASE

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Testin Bill Ensures Funds Will Help Communities Combat Drug Abuse

Madison, WI – Wisconsin counties will soon receive millions of dollars to fight opioid abuse thanks to legislation authored by Senator Patrick Testin (Stevens Point) that enables the state to receive settlement funds and determines how the money is distributed.

A pending agreement between the state, three opioid distributors, and one opioid manufacturer, would bring \$400 million to Wisconsin over the course of several years. Senator Testin’s bill ensures that local governments would receive 70% of that money while the state would receive 30%. These funds must be used for opioid treatment and prevention.

“Wisconsin’s local governments have been on the front lines in the fight against opioid abuse,” said Senator Testin. “The bill I authored paves the way for the state to accept this agreement and guarantees that the majority of this money will be used to fight drug abuse in our communities.”

Lance Pliml, who serves as the Chairman of both the Board of the Wisconsin Counties Association and the Wood County Board of Supervisors, lauded Testin’s bill.

“Senator Testin’s bill enables Wisconsin to enter this agreement and ensures that counties can utilize vital opioid abatement funds,” noted Pliml. “This is a crucial development in our fight against drug abuse.”

States will decide in the next thirty days whether to accept or reject the agreement.

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