WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Dianne Hesselbein

79TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR RELEASE: September 8, 2016 CONTACT: Senator Risser, 266-1627

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RISSER AND HESSELBEIN WELCOMES GOP SUPPORT FOR 'RIGHT TO TRY'

Rep. Dianne Hesselbein (D-Middleton) welcomed the inclusion of "Right to Try" experimental drug legislation in the Assembly Republican agenda that was announced yesterday by party leadership.

"I am pleased to see that majority Republicans now support the 'compassionate drug use' bill that Senator Fred Risser and I sought to advance in the last legislative session," Hesselbein said.

That bill, dubbed Compassionate Drug Use or "Right-to-Try" -- would permit an individual who is suffering from a terminal illness to use investigational drugs, devices and biological products that have not yet been approved for general use by the federal Food and Drug Administration.

"When patients are at the end of their rope and are willing and able to accept the risk, they ought to be able to jump the long approval process and take the drugs that might alleviate their pain," Hesselbein said.

Senator Fred Risser (D-Madison) said, "This legislation brings control over medical decisions between a patient, their family and their doctor – where it should be."