



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
CHUCK WICHGERS
83RD ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



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The Necessity of Ending Our Opioid Addiction

Rep. Wichgers reacts to article in Milwaukee Journal Sentinel about Fentanyl

Madison...Rep. Chuck Wichgers (R-Muskego), released the following statement on the following article in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel May 31, 2017 *Fentanyl adds deadly kick to heroin- and big profits for drug dealers* by Crocker Stephenson in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

In the article, the author states that ‘heroin is stronger and cheaper than pharmaceutical opioids and is therefore attractive to users whose addictions began with prescription drugs. And fentanyl, lethal as it is, is stronger and cheaper than heroin.’

“I am not only concerned about the potency, and how lethal it is, but I am also concerned that” as the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel stated ‘Fentanyl looks the same as heroin; users have no idea which they are using’ said Rep. Wichgers.

According to the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, fentanyl can be manufactured cheaply relative to heroin, costing \$2-\$3,000 a kilogram versus \$60,000 for heroin. ‘Used incorrectly, an amount the size of three grains of sand can be deadly. ‘You don’t have to be wrong by much to kill somebody.’

“We need to scream from the mountain tops; if you are thinking of, or are currently participating in illegal use of drugs, the drug dealers don’t care if you die!”

“My heart and prayers go out to the families who have gone through and are going through drug addiction and drug deaths. This continues to be a priority within the Wisconsin State Legislature, and is something that I want to be more involved in.”

Rep. Wichgers talked with friends of a recently deceased 23yr old man from the 83rd district who were in attendance at the memorial service. The two most common questions were how many more of our friends are going to die, and who is next [referring to drug related deaths in their community] Rep. Wichgers has had personal experience with family members with drug addiction, and death by heroin overdose.

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The 83th Assembly District includes portions of East Troy, Waterford, Tichigan, Big Bend, Vernon, Town of Waukesha, Muskego, Franklin and Hales Corner.