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**Bowen Applauds Governor Evers' Marijuana Proposals**  
*Time Wisconsin takes Important 1st Step allowing access to Marijuana*

MADISON - In a press conference this morning, Governor Evers announced that he will be taking the first steps to legalize marijuana in his upcoming budget. These reforms include decriminalization for possession of 25 grams or less, legalization for medicinal use, allowing the use of CBD oil without a doctor's certificate, and expungement for certain amounts. In response to this proposal, Rep. David Bowen (D-Milwaukee) released the following statement:

"I applaud Governor Evers for going further than any Wisconsin Governor in history to finally allow access to THC. Not only are these reforms popular with a wide cross section of Wisconsinites, but they will save taxpayer money and address the racial disparities in our criminal justice system that current drug laws perpetuate. For far too long, people of color have been incarcerated for the mere possession of marijuana which has torn families apart and made our communities less safe."

Under the governor's proposal, a physician, or a practitioner under the direction of a physician, can recommend the use of medical marijuana to alleviate symptoms related to medical conditions such as cancer, glaucoma, post-traumatic stress disorder, chronic pain, severe nausea, and seizures.

Rep. Bowen continued, "People should not be treated as criminals for accessing a desperately needed natural medication, and this proposal would allow Wisconsinites to use and possess up to 25 grams of marijuana without fear of incarceration and losing their livelihood. While these reforms are long overdue, I look forward to having further conversations with my colleagues to fully legalize the production, possession and use of marijuana benefiting tax payers and continue the effort to put an end to the practice of THC testing for employment."

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