



Jennifer Shilling

WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR
32ND SENATE DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 9, 2019

Contact: Kate Constalie, kate.constalie@legis.wi.gov 608-266-5490

GOP Bungling Could Cost Wisconsin Taxpayers Millions *Republican Lame Duck Laws Continue to Obstruct State A.G.*

MADISON – After the 2018 fall elections, Republicans called for a lame duck Extraordinary Session and changed state law in an effort to consolidate power and undermine the democratically elected Attorney General Josh Kaul. 2017 Wisconsin Act 369 changed state law to require the Joint Finance Committee approve any of the Attorney General’s settlement agreements. To comply with the new law, A.G. Kaul requested approval from the Joint Finance Committee on a critical settlement. Republicans on the committee however, have so far refused to take action on the lawsuit, putting Wisconsin at risk of losing millions of dollars.

“In their reckless and politically-motivated reaction to A.G. Kaul’s election, Republicans passed poorly conceived proposals without thinking through the consequences,” said Senate Democratic Leader Jennifer Shilling (D-La Crosse). “Once again, we are seeing the confusion and chaos caused by the Republican lame duck laws. It is disgraceful that Republicans are preventing the Attorney General from doing the job he was elected to. The state could be at risk of losing millions of settlement dollars and taxpayers will bear the brunt because of Republican bungling.”

As Purdue Pharma and Johnson & Johnson reach settlement agreements with state and local governments for their role in the opioid epidemic, Wisconsin could lose out on millions in funding and consumer protections if Republicans continue to obstruct the A.G.

###