



John Nygren

WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE ★ 89TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Finance

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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What They're Saying about the HOPE Agenda

Madison--State Representative John Nygren (R-Marinette), author of 30 bipartisan bills aimed at combating substance abuse in Wisconsin released the following statement:

"When I first opened up about my family's struggle with opioid addiction, I had no idea the impact it would have statewide. Emerging from the shadows cast by the stigma of addiction came stories from families and individuals around the state. These stories helped us craft the Heroin, Opioid Prevention, and Education Agenda or HOPE. This agenda is 30 bipartisan pieces of legislation aimed at combating our state's opioid crisis. Together as a state, we have made great strides."

Last week, seven additional HOPE Agenda bills were introduced to build upon what we have accomplished as a state. Since then, support for these bills and calls for co-sponsorship has been pouring in. **The deadline for co-sponsorship is Friday, November 15th.**

Additionally, Rep. Nygren gave the statewide Republican [radio address](#) and was a guest on the "[Right Angle](#)" podcast with Rep. Jon Plumer to discuss substance abuse.

"I'd like to thank the statewide stakeholders for their continued support, passion, and dedication to these important issues. Without their expertise, knowledge, and firsthand experience, we would not be able to craft such effective legislation."

What They're Saying

"With these bills being introduced, we will build bridges of understanding and hope for someone seeking or in need of help. We are excited to reignite the momentum from Recovery Alignment Day and encourage everyone to contact their representatives to support these bills and others that need to be introduced to help end the opioid crisis and support recovery."-- **Peter Brunzelle, a person in recovery and Executive Director of WisHope**

"In my role as Chair of the Wisconsin Medical Society Opioid Task Force, I am pleased that Rep. Nygren is introducing a bill to continue the requirement to check the Wisconsin PDMP before prescribing opioids. Continuing to make sure it's used goes a great way toward doing everything we can to help patients get the care they need while avoiding the side effects of the drugs we prescribe." --**Dr. Michael McNett, Chair of the Wisconsin Medical Society Opioid Task Force**

"Wisconsin's ePDMP is a crucial resource for pharmacists and prescribers in the fight against the opioid epidemic and promotes further collaboration between healthcare providers in reducing opioid misuse and abuse. The Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin appreciates the leadership of the Legislature, led by Representative Nygren, in supporting the ePDMP."--**Danielle Womach, VP, Public Affairs, Pharmacy Society of WI**

"Inclusion of acupuncture in Medicaid would reduce barriers in the treatment of pain and/or addiction by ensuring access to Wisconsinites. We would like to thank Representative Nygren and Senator Bernier for their leadership on this important issue."--**Kelly Hora, Wisconsin Society of Acupuncturists**



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"I am proud to continue to show my support for Rep. Nygren's HOPE Agenda. As a manager of a local Recovery Community Organization I have grieved the lives lost and celebrated the hope of each person that finds recovery."

*"The extension of The 911 Good Samaritan law is vital to my work, as without life there is no hope for recovery. This law is proven to save lives and based on new research published by the CDC, those with a substance use disorder who receive these interventions are four times more likely to enter substance use disorder."--**Skye Boughman, Program Manager, Drug Poisoning Prevention Program***

*"In order to continue our efforts to combat the opioid crisis, we need to make sure we are giving all of those involved in the process the necessary tools. Making sure our county jails are fully equipped with life saving measures in an emergency is absolutely critical, and I thank Rep. Born for listening and advocating for this change to be included in this session's HOPE Agenda.--**Jason Hundt, Dodge County Deputy Jail Administrator***

*"Wisconsin has been a leader in addressing the opioid crisis, and it is critical that we build on the progress the state has made by enacting additional common-sense policies. Representative Nygren's HOPE agenda will provide hope to many struggling with addiction while making treatment and recovery supports easier to access. We must ensure that evidence-based treatment is available to anyone who needs it and that we have a trained workforce at the ready to ensure its proper delivery and accompanying supports."-- **Kevin Roy, Chief Public Policy Officer for Shatterproof***

*"The Integrative Health (IH) therapies of acupuncture, massage, and Healing Touch are complementary treatments to routine acute and chronic pain care. They can potentially reduce the reliance on medications for some patients. Therefore, it is important that patients from all walks of life have access to these treatment options, including Medicaid patients. To that end, I appreciate the efforts of Rep. Nygren and Sen. Bernier who authored this legislation."--**Marilyn Bazinski, DNP-CNS, Adult/Gerontology, Pain Management Clinical Nurse Specialist, UW Health***

*"The Wisconsin Chiropractic Association deeply appreciates Rep. Nygren's commitment to helping Wisconsin citizens avoid opioid addiction by expanding access to chiropractic care."-- **John Murray, Executive Director and CEO, Wisconsin Chiropractic Association***

*"We'd like to thank Rep. Nygren and Senator Bernier for their support of physical health in the proposed HOPE legislation. Decreasing barriers to accessing nonpharmacological treatments should be included in all substance abuse discussions."--**Dennis Kaster, President of the Wisconsin Physical Therapy Association***

*"The Wisconsin EMS Association is once again proud to support the HOPE Agenda. These bills build upon the years of work that Rep. Nygren and many others have put in to combat substance abuse in Wisconsin. As EMS providers we see firsthand how opioids affect communities, families, and lives. We are on the front line of the opioid crisis. These bills and all the strong work we do together as partners gets us closer to solving this issue." --**Marc Cohen, Executive Director, WI EMS***