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Kleefisch Bill Hammers Synthetic Opioid Dealers

Assembly Unanimously Rallies Behind Locking Up Deadly Dealers

Madison – Today, the State Assembly voted unanimously on a voice vote to pass Representative Joel Kleefisch's Assembly Bill 335, a bill that cracks down on current and future fentanyl and carfentanil drugs that are infiltrating our state. These drugs are extremely deadly: carfentanil is 5,000 times more powerful than heroin, and fentanyl is 50 times more potent than heroin. Assembly Bill 335 provides specific language that will make prosecution easier, and thus will lead to prosecutions of drug dealers and drug manufacturers as well as cut off the supply of these deadly drugs in our state.

"This bill will help save lives," stated Representative Kleefisch. "Just last week, there were 12 overdose deaths in Milwaukee County within 72 hours. These deaths were likely from a brandnew fentanyl drug analog not yet illegal that my bill already makes illegal. This brand-new drug already claimed 12 deaths in 72 hours, and if we do not take the steps to make it easier to prosecute, as my bill does, this drug and others like it will continue to kill people. We need to get this bill on the Governor's desk as soon as possible."

Representative Kleefisch's bill now heads to the State Senate, where it will have a committee hearing and eventually be voted on by the full Senate. At the Assembly committee hearing, a number of people spoke in support, including an emergency room doctor, a fire chief, a Drug Enforcement Agency special agent, and the fiancé of a woman who passed away from a carfentanil overdose.

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