



# John Nygren

WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE ★ 89<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Finance

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Contact: Rep. John Nygren

June 18, 2019  
(888) 534-0089

## Step Therapy Reform Bill Heads to Governor

**Madison**--State Representative John Nygren (R-Marinette), released the following statement immediately following the passage of Assembly Bill 24:

“Today thousands of patients across Wisconsin are one step closer to receiving the right care at the right time. When Senator Darling and I first introduced this bill, we were amazed at the outpouring of support and personal stories that we received. It reminded us that the work we do here in Madison has a direct impact on the families of Wisconsin, and how important expeditiously moving this legislation is.”

“At the public hearing, people from all over Wisconsin came to tell us their story, and how this bill will positively impact their lives. After working with various health insurance groups, patient advocates, and healthcare providers, we arrived at a bill that keeps the spirit, integrity, and patient protections of the original bill, while still ensuring the health plans have the ability to meaningfully utilize step therapy protocols in order to keep costs down.”

When a physician prescribes a particular drug treatment for a patient, the patient’s insurance company may require them to try a less expensive treatment, or series of treatments, before they can have access to the drug originally prescribed by their physician. The patient is not able to try the second treatment until the first one is proven to “fail.” This protocol is known as “step therapy” and is deployed by insurance companies as they strive to control costs while maintaining high-quality care.

“I would like to thank Speaker Vos for shepherding this bill through the Assembly in a timely manner. I now call on Governor Tony Evers to sign this bipartisan bill into law as soon as possible, so patients can get the care they need and deserve more efficiently.”

###