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**NEWS RELEASE** 

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Rob Gundermann - chair of the Wisconsin Pharmacy Patient Protection Coalition (WPPPC) and president and CEO of the Coalition of Wisconsin Aging and Health Groups today issued the following statement regarding the WI Assembly finalizing passage by both the Assembly and Senate of the <u>SB 3</u> PBM bill. The bill now heads to Governor Evers for potential signature into law:

"Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers will soon have the chance to sign into law SB 3, a bill which will finally help hold Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) middlemen accountable for rising prescription prices across the state. Wisconsin patients and pharmacists have sought this relief for more than a year now and watched as more than 40 other states passed similar efforts into law. Today, with its passage by the legislature, this bi-partisan legislation will shine a bright light of transparency on a process that previously allowed the PBMs to dominate a system that unfairly profited off of patients, putting them last in the prescription process and driving up costs.

"For too long, Wisconsin has needed to fix Wisconsin's PBM problem and now, thanks to bill sponsors on both sides of the aisle in the Assembly and Senate, along with the Governor's commitment to protecting patients from the rising costs of prescription drugs, PBMs will be under appropriate state regulation that ensures they are operating properly. The new PBM law will protect many of Wisconsin's most vulnerable patients and seniors, who often need these medications the most. We are hopeful the Governor will sign this bill into law as soon as possible."