



NEWS Release

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For Immediate Release

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE JOHN NYGREN (R-MARINETTE) HONORED AS LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD RECIPIENT

The Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin is pleased to recognize John Nygren (R-Marquette), as the recipient of the 2010 Legislator of the Year Award.

State Representative John Nygren (R-Marquette)

State Representative John Nygren (R-89) represents northeastern Wisconsin and was the author of Assembly Bill 272 which makes changes to Wisconsin's prescription drug repository program. The focus of the changes proposed by AB 272 came from a pharmacist in Representative Nygren's district that wanted to find a use for medications being returned to the pharmacy that had been prepackaged. The changes proposed by AB 272 would allow these medications to be donated to free clinics.

Additionally, State Representatives John Nygren (R-Marquette) and Gary Hebl (D-Sun Prairie) circulated a letter to their colleagues asking Governor Doyle to intervene and direct Wisconsin Medicaid to take action and avert a major hardship on pharmacy providers and the patients they serve. The letter included signatures from 105 out of 132 members of the Wisconsin Legislature. The letter was drafted after Representatives Nygren, Hebl and other legislators met with the Department of Health Services Division of Health Care Financing Administrator, Jason Helgeson, to discuss the eventual changes under the State's Medicaid program to reimburse pharmacies based on the Average Wholesale Price (AWP) for single source, brand name prescription drug products

The Legislator of the Year Award is presented to a member of the legislature who has demonstrated a commitment to the practice of pharmacy.

Nygren was honored at a special awards reception on February 23rd at the Inn on the Park in Madison. The award is presented each year in conjunction with the annual Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin Legislative Day. Legislative Day provides an opportunity each year to put a face on PSW's legislative advocacy activities. The conference gives participants the chance to demonstrate to legislators the solidarity of our profession and to make the issues personal. Conference attendees will also gain an insider's view of the decision making process at the State Capitol, while reinforcing PSW's reputation of an informed membership and strong grassroots network.

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PSW is a statewide professional association that represents over 2,000 Wisconsin pharmacists and pharmacy technicians. Wisconsin pharmacists dispense over five million prescriptions each month to consumers and have repeatedly been listed by national polling organizations as one of the most trusted professions in the United States.