What is Provider Status in Wisconsin and how is it different from federal Provider Status?
This bill would add pharmacists to the list of recognized health care providers in Wisconsin whose services must be reimbursed by certain payors. Provider Status is designed to add pharmacists to the list of covered Medicaid service providers.

The federal government has jurisdiction to decide covered entities for Medicare, while the state government has jurisdiction over state funded payers (Medicaid).

Does this bill apply to services that are covered under a patient’s medical benefit or prescription benefit?
This bill would apply to services that are rendered by a pharmacist that are encompassed in their scope of practice or delegated to them by a physician. Dispensing practices will remain under the prescription benefit. The medical benefit is anticipated to reimburse for clinical pharmacist services including, but not limited to: immunization administration, injectable medication administration, comprehensive medication reviews, smoking cessation counseling, and diabetes management services.

What is the difference between Provider Status and prescriber status (prescriptive authority)?
Provider Status is achieved when a health care profession is added to the list of covered health care providers who are able to seek reimbursement for covered services.

Prescriber status is the authorization of a health care profession to write or order the use of medical prescriptions (prescriptive authority).

This bill does not aim to add prescriptive authority to the scope of pharmacy practice.

Why is reimbursement (not scope) targeted in this bill?
Currently, reimbursement for pharmacist-provided services is limited.

Providing reimbursement for pharmacist-provided services would eliminate barriers and allow for pharmacist role expansion, increasing patient access.

The current scope of Wisconsin pharmacists is extensive and the ability to enter into Collaborative Practice Agreements allows for the expansion of pharmacy services offered.