CO-SPONSORSHIP MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Wisconsin State Legislature

FROM: Representative Lindee Brill

Representative Nate Gustafson

Senator André Jacque

DATE: November 11, 2025

RE: Co-Sponsorship of LRB-4205/1 & LRB-5438/1; Relating to: prescription, use, and disposal of abortion-inducing drugs and providing a penalty.

DEADLINE: November 20, 2025

The people of Wisconsin deserve clean water and an assurance that harmful endocrine disruptors and pathological waste does not contaminate our lakes, streams, rivers, and wetlands. As it currently stands, there is no state guidance regarding the disposal of waste resulting from the use of an abortion-inducing drug, which includes endocrine-disrupting chemicals. This bill will require proper disposal of medical waste resulting from the use of an abortion-inducing drug. This legislation requires the waste to be discarded properly, provides a clear procedure, and holds manufacturers responsible if the chemicals or waste are detected in wastewater.

The dangers of these pills extend beyond the immediate harm they cause to women and children. Pathological medical waste is flushed down toilets, and ends up in our water systems. Endocrine-disrupting drugs also disrupt the endocrine system of fish and other aquatic organisms when they enter waterways. This could easily lead to a reduction in native fish populations, and adversely affect organisms higher along the food chain (source).

Empirically, research from NYU's School of Medicine has found astronomically high costs of endocrine disruptors, estimated to cost the U.S. \$340B, or ~2.3% of GDP per year, with \$282B in neurological damages and \$43B in endometriosis and fibroids. Millions of IQ points, estimated at 1.8M in the United States and 13M in Europe, are also lost, leading to higher incidence of intellectual disability (source).

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please reply to this email or contact Representative Brill's office (608)-237-9127 or Senator Jacque's Office (608)-266-3512

by 4 PM on November 20. Co-sponsors will be added to both the Assembly and Senate bills unless otherwise requested.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill adds to current law requirements relating to the prescription, use, and disposal of abortion-inducing drugs. Under current law, no person may give an abortion-inducing drug to a woman unless the physician who prescribed, or otherwise provided, the abortioninducing drug for the woman both performs a physical exam of the woman before certain required information is provided and is physically present in the room when the abortioninducing drug is given to the woman. A person who violates these requirements is guilty of a Class I felony, but no penalty may be assessed against the woman to whom an abortioninducing drug is given. The bill adds to the requirements that must be met before a person may give, or attempt to give, an abortion-inducing drug to a woman. The physician who prescribes, or otherwise provides, the abortion-inducing drug must, in addition to current law requirements, 1) ensure that a follow-up visit for the patient is scheduled with the physician's office to occur not more than seven days after the use or administration of the abortion-inducing drug to assess the patient's physical condition; and 2) provide a catch kit and medical waste bag, including instructions for the patient to use the catch kit and medical waste bag and to return the catch kit and medical waste bag to the physician's office for proper disposal. Under the bill, the penalty for violation under current law would also apply to violations of the new requirements.

The bill also provides that the manufacturer of any abortion-inducing drug is responsible for proper disposal of the abortion-inducing drugs and mitigation of any release of an endocrine disruptor caused by the improper disposal of abortion-inducing drugs, including from the disposal of pathological waste. Under the bill, an endocrine disruptor is a chemical that interferes with the hormones of a human body. Under the bill, if an endocrine disruptor resulting from the improper disposal of an abortion-inducing drug is detected in wastewater, the manufacturer of the abortion-inducing drug is subject to provisions known collectively as the "spills law." In general, the spills law provides that a person that possesses or controls a hazardous substance or that causes the discharge of a hazardous substance must notify the Department of Natural Resources immediately, restore the environment to the extent practicable, and minimize the harmful effects from the discharge. If action is not being adequately taken, DNR may take emergency action to contain or remove the hazardous substance. The bill provides that a violation of these requirements is subject to a forfeiture of not more than \$20,000 per violation.

Under current law, DNR regulates water quality and the operation of water systems and wastewater treatment plants. The bill requires DNR to require owners of water systems to regularly test for the presence of endocrine disruptors and authorizes DNR to assist owners of water systems to develop that capacity.

Because this bill creates a new crime or revises a penalty for an existing crime, the Joint Review Committee on Criminal Penalties may be requested to prepare a report.