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Wisconsin Medical Society praises signing of special session HOPE Agenda bills

The statement below is attributable to Wisconsin Medical Society President Noel Deep, MD, FACP

"Today is another important day in the continued fight against opioid addiction and abuse. In signing 11 special session HOPE Agenda bills into law across the state, Governor Walker is continuing the bipartisan, broad-based collaboration among physicians, the health care community, policymakers and law enforcement to fight this crisis. The HOPE Agenda wisely takes a two-pronged strategy in fighting opioid addiction and abuse: establishing programs to help those who are currently addicted to opioids while also striving to prevent people from becoming addicted in the first place.

"State Assembly Rep. John Nygren, Wisconsin Attorney General Brad Schimel and Governor Walker are elected leaders committed to finding solutions by working in partnership with physicians. Because of these combined efforts, Wisconsin continues to be a national leader among the states in combating the opioid crisis. The Society's membership knows much work still needs to be done and will continue to collaborate with all policymakers for as long as it takes."

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With over 12,500 members dedicated to the best interests of their patients, the <u>Wisconsin Medical</u> <u>Society</u> is the largest association of medical doctors in the state and a trusted source for health policy leadership since 1841.