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STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 38TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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Kleefisch/Law Enforcement Team Up To Stop Legal “Heroin”

MADISON – Wisconsin is at the center of a frightening new trend. U-47700, synthetic heroin, which is not currently illegal to sell or possess, is growing in popularity and accounts for two Racine County deaths according to Sheriff Christopher Schmaling. “Synthetic heroin does nothing more than fuel the opioid epidemic,” said Schmaling.

The chemical compound mirrors heroin but is different enough that it skirts the restrictions for controlled substances in Wisconsin. State Representative Joel Kleefisch (R) Oconomowoc, Chairman of the Assembly Criminal Justice Committee is taking quick action to make this deadly drug illegal. “Not only can U-47700 be legally purchased on the internet, or on the street, it can be taken as a pill, cooked and injected, or snorted. We must make sure we get ahead of this trend by at very least making it illegal to traffic,” said Kleefisch.

The state’s Department of Justice and law enforcement support Kleefisch’s efforts to take a two-pronged approach. Kleefisch will write legislation to make U-47700 illegal to sell or possess and encourage efforts for the state’s Controlled Substances Board to add it to the list of banned substances through administrative rule.

“This drug is as deadly, if not more deadly, than heroin,” said Sheriff Schmaling, “We’re 100 percent behind Kleefisch getting this done as soon as possible. People who buy it don’t understand the potency of what they’re buying”.

Kleefisch is heading a coalition to combat heroin. Its members are considering all aspects of the growing epidemic from over-prescription at the pharmacy to street sales to effective treatments for addiction.

For more information or answers to your questions please contact Joel Kleefisch at (888) 534-0038 or Racine County Sheriff Christopher Schmaling at (262) 636-3822.

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