

- **If your organization has worked with music therapists in the past, you can mention that you *need* to be able to verify their staff's credentials through a state license to reduce your own organizational liability.**

Email: Sen.Kapenga@legis.wisconsin.gov

Phone number: (608) 266-9174

[Organization Name]

[Address] | [City, State, Zip]

[Date]

The Honorable Chris Kapenga Chair, Senate Committee on Licensing, Regulatory Reform, State and Federal Affairs

Wisconsin State Capitol, Room 15 South

Madison, WI 53707

RE: Organizational Support and Hearing Request for SB 489/AB 492

Dear Senator Kapenga,

On behalf of [Organization Name], I am writing to urge you to grant a hearing for SB 489/AB 492. Our organization serves [mention population: e.g., Wisconsin veterans / seniors with memory loss / individuals with developmental disabilities], and we recognize this legislation as a vital step in protecting the people we serve from medical fraud and substandard care.

SB 489/AB 492 passed the Assembly with unanimous, bipartisan support because it offers a common-sense solution to the following challenges:

- **Protecting Wisconsin's Most Vulnerable:** The populations we advocate for are high-needs and often at risk of exploitation. This bill ensures they receive care from qualified professionals and significantly reduces the risk of physical or psychological harm caused by untrained individuals misrepresenting their skills.
- **Stopping Medical Fraud and Waste:** We are committed to the responsible use of state resources. Currently, unqualified individuals are misrepresenting themselves as music therapists to bill the Medicaid waiver program. This is an illegal use of taxpayer funds that our current "toothless" state registry is unable to stop.
- **Upgrading an Ineffective Registry:** For organizations to operate safely, we need a regulatory system with actual enforcement power. This bill "levels up" the existing

registry into a revenue-neutral license that ensures truth in advertising and clinical accountability.

- **Professional Accountability and Standards:** Our organization relies on a team-based approach to care. Like doctors, Occupational Therapists (OTs), and Physical Therapists (PTs), Music Therapists are Allied Health professionals who should be held to the same state-recognized accountability standards to ensure client safety.
- **Protecting the Free Market:** This bill does NOT prevent other professionals or volunteers from using music in their activities. It simply ensures that anyone providing and billing for "Music Therapy" services possesses the required clinical credentials and board certification (CBMT).

As a partner in Wisconsin's healthcare and advocacy landscape, we believe this bill is necessary for both fiscal integrity and public safety. We respectfully request that you schedule a hearing for SB 489/AB 492 to allow the Senate to finish this important work.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Name of Executive Director/President]

[Title]

[Organization Name]