

Wisconsin Organizations In Support of Treatment Instead of Prison (TIP)

October 9, 2009

To: All WISDOM TIP Supporters
From: Joseph W. Ellwanger,
WISDOM TIP Campaign Coordinator

This is a heads-up on the OWI legislation that is moving quickly through the legislature.

A Senate sub-committee made up of Senators Lena Taylor, Jim Sullivan, and Rus Decker, has offered an amendment to SB66, which is an improvement – over the original SB 6 and the AB 283, which passed the Assembly unanimously about 10 days ago.

SB66

Key features in the sub amendment One are:

- Provide new revenue of \$26 million from additional tax on hard liquor to cover the court costs and the treatment costs of the bill.

- Expands the potential use of the SSTOP (Safe Streets Treatment Options Program) program to every county in Wisconsin.

- Permits the SSTOP program to deal not only with 2nd and 3rd OWI's but also with 4th OWI's.

- The surcharge of \$50 for the Ignition Interlock Device (IID) installation will go to the counties, instead of the State Department of Transportation, to help Counties defray expenses connected with the OWI program.

SB66 Sub amendment One will go to Joint Finance Committee next week (October 12-16), and will likely be voted on in the full Senate the week of October 19-23.

So now is the time for TIP supporters to call their Senator and tell him/her you support SB66 Sub Amendment because it deals with the drunk driving problem in Wisconsin in an effective way – that takes the problem very seriously, gets at the root problem of addiction, saves money and lives, and actually gives Counties the dollars to deal with OWI's in the way that almost every County wants to do it.

THIS IS A REMINDER: The next meeting of the Wisconsin Organizations in Support of TIP will be held Tuesday, November 10, 10:00 AM at the United Methodist Office Building, 750 Windsor St. Sun Prairie, WI. At that meeting we will evaluate the status of the OWI legislation and strategize around moving forward availability of the \$10 million Becky Young money for re-entry services in local communities.

For more information, contact Joseph Ellwanger, 414-736-280 or joe.ellwanger@gmail.com.