



# 2024 PSW Legislative Day Recap



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by Danielle M. Womack, MPH, HIVPCP

**P**SW's 2024 Legislative Day brought together more than 300 pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and students from across Wisconsin to advocate for the future of pharmacy.

The morning opened with an address by PSW President Hannel Tibagwa Ambord, who warmly welcomed attendees and thanked members for their advocacy for the profession and their continued support of PSW. This year, PSW is highlighting the importance of storytelling. Tibagwa Ambord spoke about how everyone's story is unique and that telling one's own story is critical to influencing the future of pharmacy. Throughout the morning, attendees were encouraged to reflect on their own experiences in pharmacy in preparation for discussions with legislators.

Tibagwa Ambord then presented the PSW Student Good Government Award to those who have shown significant advocacy for the profession. This year, the honor was awarded to three students: Sierra Szymanski (UW-Madison), Hannah Weidner (Concordia University), and Zoe Green (Medical College of Wisconsin). The PSW Good Government Awards was then presented to Dave Hager, a Senior Director at Visante, for his role as an educator to state and federal policymakers on the topic of pharmacist professional judgment. Lastly, the Legislator of the Year award was presented to State Senator Mary

Felzkowski for her tireless efforts at passing comprehensive pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) reform. While Senator Felzkowski's PBM bill was not passed during this legislative session, she committed to reintroducing the bill in the upcoming legislative session during her award remarks.

The morning continued with Danielle Womack, PSW Vice President of Public Policy and Advocacy, and State Representative Clint Moses, Chairman of the Assembly Committee on Health, discussing a variety of issues in healthcare policy, including drug costs, support for medical marijuana, healthcare workforce issues, and Department of Safety and Professional Services (DPS) licensing delays. Representative Moses offered insights into policy-making, debunked common misconceptions, and emphasized that, despite appearances, there is more bipartisan support for healthcare-related issues than is often recognized. The session concluded with valuable advice: to remain engaged with legislators of all political backgrounds, as these interactions will ultimately shape the future of pharmacy.

Following the legislator discussion, Susan Kleppin gave an update on the Pharmacy Examining Board (PEB) activities regarding recent rule projects, including technician registration and remote dispensing, changes to the top 100 drugs list, and third-party logistics providers. PEB resources on applications and licensure

dates were shared, and pharmacists were encouraged to stay current by registering for email updates on the DPS website.

The day concluded with an update from Womack and PSW Contract Lobbyist Forbes McIntosh regarding several bills circulating in the legislature to prepare for discussion at legislator office visits. The first bill would allow pharmacists to independently prescribe contraception. The second bill is a comprehensive PBM reform package, focusing on patient choice in pharmacy. The third bill involves eliminating the Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination (MPJE) for pharmacy graduates to help address issues in licensing delays. Following this overview, attendees walked to the Wisconsin State Capitol to discuss these bills with legislators.

Legislative Day 2024 was another successful opportunity to highlight the importance of PSW member advocacy. As pharmacy practice advances, PSW encourages you to continue sharing your story to advocate for the profession. PSW offers several opportunities to get involved at [www.pswi.org/Get-Involved](http://www.pswi.org/Get-Involved).

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Danielle Womack is the Vice President of Public Policy & Advocacy at the Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin in Madison, WI.



**2024 PSW LEGISLATIVE DAY**  
**Wednesday, February 21, 2024**  
Monona Terrace Convention Center, Madison



Above: PSW Student Good Government Award Recipients (left to right) Sierra Szymanski (UW-Madison), Hannah Weidner (Concordia University), and Zoe Green (Medical College of Wisconsin)



Pharmacy Society  
of Wisconsin

# 2024 PSW Legislative Day Awards

Below: PSW Good Government Award Recipient Dave Hager from Visante. PSW Legislator of the Year Recipient, State Senator, Mary Felzkowski.



# PSW ADVOCACY CONTRIBUTIONS

PSW offers three different advocacy contribution opportunities. Each option serves a different purpose and has different contribution requirements:



## Friends of Pharmacy Fund

*Building Influence. Cultivating Relationships.*

Money goes into individual accounts associated with giver

Funds dispersed at recommendation of PSW and direction of giver

Used to contribute to campaign events



## WISCONSIN PHARMACY PAC

Money goes into pooled account

Funds dispersed at direction of PSW

Used to contribute to campaign events



## LEGISLATIVE DEFENSE FUND

Money goes into pooled account

Funds used for non-campaign advocacy work

Supports PSW Legislative Day, lobbyist retainer fees, and advocacy materials.

	PSW Friends of Pharmacy Fund (Conduit)	Wisconsin Pharmacy Political Action Committee (PAC)	PSW Legislative Defense Fund
<b>Types of Contributors</b>	Individuals	Individuals	Individuals, Businesses
<b>Contribution Use</b>	Political Contributions to Candidate Committees	Political Contributions to Candidate Committees	Non-Political Advocacy (e.g., PSW Legislative Day, lobbyist retainers, advocacy materials, grassroots advocacy software, etc.)
<b>Do Contributors Specifically Allocate Their Contributions?</b>	Yes, contributors MUST explicitly and specifically state the candidate to whom they would like to contribute and the amount they would like to contribute.	No, funds are pooled and allocated at the direction of the PSW Board of Directors.	No, funds are pooled and allocated at the direction of the PSW CEO and VP of Public Affairs.
<b>This Is the Option for You If...</b>	You are an individual contributor who wants to control which candidates receive your funds.  You would like your name attached to specific contributions.	You are an individual contributor who would like to delegate the dispersal of your funds to PSW to contribute where the funds are most needed to impact pharmacy positively.  You do not want your name attached to any specific contribution.	You are a business that would like to support PSW advocacy activities.  You are an individual who would like to support PSW's grassroots advocacy activities.