AN ACT to amend 450.115 (4) (a), 450.115 (4) (b) and 450.115 (4) (c); and to create 450.115 (1) (am) and 450.115 (3) (d) of the statutes; relating to: hospice staff transferring the controlled substances of deceased persons to drug disposal programs.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill authorizes a hospice worker to receive written authorization from a personal representative or trustee of a deceased person's estate or trust, or an adult beneficiary of the estate or trust, to lawfully transfer a controlled substance to a drug disposal program that is authorized under state or federal law. Under the bill, the authorization is valid only if it satisfies certain conditions, including that the authorization describes the controlled substance with reasonable specificity and that the authorization and the controlled substance were obtained by the hospice worker without the payment of money or something else of value.

Under current law, a person may not, and it is often a crime to, deliver, receive, or possess certain controlled substances unless the person is a licensed pharmacist or other licensed practitioner, has a valid prescription for the controlled substance, or lawfully possesses the controlled substance for the purpose of transferring it to a drug disposal program that is authorized under state or federal law.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:
SECTION 1. 450.115 (1) (am) of the statutes is created to read:

450.115 (1) (am) “Hospice worker” means a person who is employed by a hospice, as defined in s. 50.90 (1).

SECTION 2. 450.115 (3) (d) of the statutes is created to read:

450.115 (3) (d) A personal representative, trustee, or an adult beneficiary, as defined in s. 701.1102 (1m), of an estate or trust may grant written authorization to a hospice worker for the disposal of a controlled substance that belongs to the estate or trust.

SECTION 3. 450.115 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

450.115 (4) (a) The authorization describes with reasonable specificity each prescription drug or controlled substance that is to be disposed of.

SECTION 4. 450.115 (4) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

450.115 (4) (b) The authorization is in the physical possession of the person authorized to dispose of the prescription drug or controlled substance and each prescription drug or controlled substance described in the authorization is, within 24 hours after the authorization is signed by the person granting the authorization, transferred to a drug disposal program under s. 165.65 or otherwise lawfully disposed of.

SECTION 5. 450.115 (4) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

450.115 (4) (c) The authorization and each prescription drug or controlled substance to be disposed of were obtained without consideration.

(END)