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Testimony on AB-674

January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026

Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice

Thank you, Chair Spiros and the rest of the committee on Criminal Justice for hearing Assembly Bill (AB) 674. This bill addresses a deeply troubling issue that most of us would hope could never happen in today's world. Yet it does. Forced organ harvesting, which is the removal of organs from living people without their consent, continues in several parts of the world, most notably in China.

In these cases, organs are taken through coercion, abduction, or abuse of power, often from political prisoners or individuals targeted for their beliefs. It is a horrific violation of basic human rights and fuels what is known as "organ tourism," where people travel overseas to buy organs obtained through these abusive practices. Organ tourism is on the rise due to the severe shortage of organs and long transplant waitlist in many countries. Kidneys are the most commonly trafficked organs.

AB 674 ensures Wisconsin has no part in that system. The bill states that if someone receives an organ from China or another country identified by the Department of Health Services as taking part in forced organ harvesting, their health insurance cannot cover the cost of the transplant or related care. The bill prohibits both private and public health insurance plans to cover organ harvesting.

To be clear, this does not stop anyone from receiving a transplant. It simply ensures that taxpayers are not paying for medical procedures connected to human rights abuses. The only exception applies when care is needed to save a patient's life after the individual receives a human organ transplant.

This bill reinforces Wisconsin's commitment to ethical medical standards and ensures our state resources are not tied to unlawful or abusive practices. We have a responsibility to make sure our state's health care dollars reflect our values, and that means standing up for human dignity and against these horrific acts.

Thank you again for your time and for considering Assembly Bill 674.



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# CORY TOMCZYK

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## Assembly Bill 674

Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice & Public Safety

January 6, 2026

Unfortunately, around the world, forced organ harvesting from living human beings takes place regularly. This practice happens most often in China and in most instances, the organs are taken from political prisoners. This happens as a result of coercion, abduction, and abuse of power and is called “organ tourism”. In turn, people travel to China to purchase these organs and have them transplanted much cheaper and quicker than they could here in the United States.

AB 674 does not stop someone if they want to participate in this disgusting industry, however says that should someone knowingly receive an organ that has been taken against someone’s will from a country that participates in organ harvesting (as identified by DHS), they are not covered by insurance once they return to Wisconsin. This means that they will not be covered for care related to this transplant by their insurance plan, self-insured government plan, or Medicaid – unless it is to save the patient’s life.

AB 674 should be unnecessary, however in places like China, this barbaric act continues to happen and American patients have taken advantage. I want to ensure that Wisconsin insurance companies and taxpayer funded insurance is not contributing to China’s organ tourism industry.