



# NANCY VANDERMEER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 70<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

**For Immediate Release:**

**December 11, 2017**

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## **Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact Signed by Governor**

(Madison) - The state of Wisconsin is now part of the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact thanks to a piece of legislation authored by Representative Nancy VanderMeer (R-Tomah). The Governor signed AB 500/SB 417 into law today at Southwest Health in Platteville.

Representative VanderMeer released the following statement:

"I'm thrilled to have had the opportunity to bring a piece of legislation like this forward and have it signed into law. The nurses across our state are such a huge part of our communities in so many ways, and to be able offer legislation that has such a positive impact for them and their profession is tremendously rewarding. This legislation will also help to increase healthcare access for patient care in our rural communities, so this particular bill will have a vast impact for a large number of individuals.

"I'm thankful to the excellent healthcare organizations we have in our area and the individual nurses and medical professionals that have supported and advocated for this legislation. In addition, I'm thankful to my colleagues in the Legislature for their support - having almost 100 bi-partisan co-sponsors of the legislation from both houses is basically unheard of - and thankful to the Governor for signing this time-sensitive piece of legislation into law."

Eric Borgerding, President/CEO of the Wisconsin Hospital Association, an organization whose membership primarily includes hospital organizations statewide, also released the following statement regarding the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact being signed today:

"Governor Walker, Senator Marklein, Representative VanderMeer and Representative Tranel have been dedicated to sustaining and improving high quality health care in Wisconsin – especially for those living in rural communities. WHA has been working closely with these lawmakers this legislative session to provide additional funding to train physicians, advanced practice clinicians and allied health professionals in rural communities as part of the biennial state budget and the Rural Wisconsin Initiative. By signing Senate Bill 417, Governor Walker is taking additional steps to ensure that licensure doesn't become an unnecessary hurdle for qualified nurses and the employers that depend on a nursing workforce in Wisconsin."

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*The 70th Assembly District includes portions of Monroe, Jackson, Portage and Wood counties.*