

NANCY VANDERMEER

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

For Immediate Release: March 26, 2021 Contact: Rep. Nancy VanderMeer (608) 266-8366

## Governor Evers Signs Two VanderMeer Health Care Bills into Law

**Madison, WI** – Today, Governor Evers signed two pieces of legislation authored by Representative Nancy VanderMeer (R-Tomah) into law. The bills authored by Representative VanderMeer that were signed are <u>Assembly Bill 125</u> and <u>Assembly Bill 148</u>, now 2021 Acts 23 and 10.

Assembly Bill 125 makes some significant changes to the way Physician Assistants throughout the state are able to provide care and increases access to Physician Assistant care for patients. Assembly Bill 148 addresses a number of issues that health care providers and hospitals are still dealing with related to COVID-19 circumstances and also makes it easier for health care professionals with a desire to practice in the state, the ability to do so.

"I'm glad that the governor chose to sign these bills into law and saw the strong support from the Republican and Democrat caucuses in both the Assembly and Senate for these bills. If you pick up a statewide newspaper, you might not see a lot of ink devoted to these bills or other similar initiatives, but these bills, and how quickly we were able to move them forward in the legislative process, is a testament to the fact that there's a desire and an ability to produce bipartisan results that provide benefits to Wisconsin residents, and that's what I'm most excited about. Both of these bills directly and positively impact those seeking care from health care providers in their local communities."

Assembly Bill 125 and Assembly Bill 148 both received strong bipartisan support in the Assembly and Senate, and moved relatively quickly through the legislative process in both houses this session. AB 125 was passed by the Assembly during the last legislative session but not the Senate. The provisions in AB 148 were originally included in <u>Assembly Bill 1</u> which was introduced in January this year. That bill was later amended by both houses of the Legislature and then ultimately vetoed by the governor. Gundersen Health, Marshfield Clinic, and Mayo Clinic voiced support for and <u>formally registered</u> their support for AB 148.

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