



NANCY VANDERMEER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 70TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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VanderMeer Paper Bill Passes Assembly

Madison – Yesterday, during a floor session, the State Assembly passed Representative Nancy VanderMeer’s (R-Tomah) bill that creates efficiencies for paper producers throughout the state. [Assembly Bill 497](#), supported by a variety of industry stakeholders, labor unions, the Wisconsin Paper Council, and others, allows paper manufacturers with a capable chemical recovery boiler to complete a required safety inspection from the state on a two-year, rather than an annual basis.

“I’m very pleased to have moved this bill forward again this session and am also happy that this bill’s companion legislation has passed the Senate. Aside from the environmental benefits, paper industry producers in labor and management agree that the ability to conduct two-year rather than annual inspections will help them be more productive for themselves and their clients. A number of our neighbors in the Midwest have similar statutory capability and I’ve enjoyed the chance to productively work with the Department of Safety and Professional Services on this legislation too. They have been helpful and supportive of this proposal, and I’m hopeful that the governor will see the broad support for this legislation and get it enacted into law,” VanderMeer said.

Last session, identical legislation was authored by VanderMeer and passed the Assembly in February of 2020 with bipartisan support. The Senate version of the bill was passed out of committee and on the Senate floor calendar for their final scheduled session day of the 2019-2020 Legislative Session that was subsequently cancelled because of the COVID-19.

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