



# NANCY VANDERMEER

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

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## **Senate Passes VanderMeer's Compact Re-Authorization Act**

**Madison** – The state Senate passed the Medical Licensure Compact Re-Authorization Act, authored by Representative Nancy VanderMeer (R-Tomah), via voice vote during their floor session at the Capitol today.

Representative VanderMeer introduced legislation re-authorizing the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact with Representative Debra Kolste (D-Janesville) earlier this year. The compact, a voluntary process for expediting physician licensure across state lines, was originally authored by VanderMeer and signed into law in 2015.

When the compact was signed into law, it included a sunset after five years to trigger legislative review of Wisconsin's participation in the compact. The goal of the sunset was not to terminate Wisconsin's participation, but to review the benefits and re-evaluate the need to continue Wisconsin's participation in this interstate agreement. The Compact Re-Authorization Act addresses and removes the sunset clause in the original legislation.

"The response to the compact has been incredibly positive and a number of local healthcare providers have success stories related to utilization of the compact. I'm very pleased that the Senate was able to move this re-authorization legislation forward today. Re-authorization of the compact means that it will continue to facilitate access to quality care while reducing regulatory burdens and expediting administrative licensing hurdles that prevent access to care, especially in rural areas," VanderMeer said.

"I'm planning on the legislation receiving a public hearing later this month in the Assembly Committee on Health and look forward to getting it passed through the Assembly as soon as possible this year," VanderMeer added.

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