

## NANCY VANDERMEER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 70TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

For Immediate Release: April 9, 2020 Contact: Rep. Nancy VanderMeer (608) 266-8366

## VanderMeer Thanks Local Election Clerks and National Guard Members for Going Above and Beyond Call of Duty

**Madison** – Representative Nancy VanderMeer (R-Tomah) released the following statement regarding the April 7<sup>th</sup> spring election:

"I want to extend a very special thank you to the local election clerks and elected officials throughout the 70<sup>th</sup> Assembly District for going above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that citizens were able to exercise their fundamental right to vote in the April 7th spring election. I would especially like to thank our local clerks for being in constant communication over the past several weeks to share their concerns and ultimate successes regarding preparation and progress toward a safe and fair election where individuals were strongly urged to vote early and absentee, if possible, but were also able to exercise their right, safely, in person, on Tuesday.

"I joined a large number of my legislative colleagues in acknowledging that if there was a time to consider moving the April 7<sup>th</sup> election, it would have been in February or early March before early voting began, provided that data existed to support such a dramatic decision. I also agreed with Governor Evers on March 20<sup>th</sup> when he stated, while addressing a question about moving the election date, 'Moving this date is not going to solve the problem. We could move it to June. It could be worse in June. It could be worse in May.' 1

"As I stated previously, one of the most compelling reasons for continuing forward with the election was that a number of local official's terms ended on or immediately after April 7. The local officials that were critically important to ensure a safe election are vitally important going forward to offer leadership and continuity of government in challenging times like those we're all experiencing right now. Over 3,900 state, county, school and municipal elections were on the ballot Tuesday.

"Last but surely not least, I'd like to thank the more than 2,400 honorable National Guardsmen and Guardswomen, activated by the governor, for answering the call of duty and helping to fill in as poll workers for municipalities all across the state that had a shortage of available workers. It continues to be my honor to represent so many enlisted and civilian support individuals and families who help comprise the best of our state and the best of our country."

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

<sup>1</sup> Governor Evers joint press conference with DHS staff on COVID-19 conditions and response update at State Capitol. March 20, 2020. Link to Department of Health Service's video on YouTube (begins at ~1:02:11 mark): <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-</a>

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