

NANCY VANDERMEER

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

For Immediate Release: March 14, 2019 Contact: Rep. Nancy VanderMeer (608) 266-8366

## State Senate Health Committee Hears Compact Re-Authorization Act

**Madison** – Today, the Senate Health and Human Services Committee held a public hearing on Senate Bill 74/Assembly Bill 70 – The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Re-Authorization Act. Representative Nancy VanderMeer (R-Tomah) authored and recently introduced this legislation with Senator Patrick Testin (R-Stevens Point), Senator Patty Schachtner (D-Somerset), and Representative Debra Kolste (D-Janesville).

Representative VanderMeer testified before the Senate committee on the bill today and released the following statement:

"I think that today's hearing went really well. My goal today was to remind members of the committee why this compact agreement is important and why it needs to be re-authorized. In addition to streamlining the licensing process for physicians to provide in-person care, something unique about the compact is that it ties into telemedicine efforts across the state.

The compact enables healthcare providers not located in larger metro areas, like those in communities throughout the 70<sup>th</sup> district, to expand access via telemedicine efforts and continue to confront the physician shortage in rural areas, helping to keep high-quality health care in local communities. That's extremely important to me and individuals throughout my district and I look forward to continuing to move this bill forward in the legislative process."

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