

NANCY VANDERMEER

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

For Immediate Release: January 13, 2020 Contact: Rep. Nancy VanderMeer (608) 266-8366

## VanderMeer Pleased That CNA Shortage Legislation Vetoed by Governor Will Receive Override Vote in Assembly

**Madison** – Representative Nancy VanderMeer (R-Tomah) released the following statement on Monday after the Assembly Committee on Rules granted her request to schedule a veto override vote on <u>Assembly Bill 76</u>, authored by Representative Warren Petryk, of the Town of Washington.

"Assembly Bill 76 is legislation that would increase access to care for individuals throughout the state, especially in the communities I serve in the 70<sup>th</sup> Assembly District. I've directly led and engaged in a number of initiatives that remove bureaucratic burdens for healthcare providers to provide care. In addition, I've been involved in a variety of efforts to help healthcare providers throughout the state, especially in rural areas, attract, recruit, and retain healthcare providers to provide care close to home in small and medium sized population centers throughout the state," VanderMeer said.

"This legislation, authored by Representative Petryk, would align Wisconsin's CNA training requirements with federal minimum standards, and those of the neighboring states of Michigan, Minnesota, and Iowa. This is important because Wisconsin's additional training requirements for CNA's exacerbates an already existing workforce shortage, especially in border communities and areas of the state. Because our requirements don't align with surrounding states, our senior and long-term care providers are at a disadvantage. I've heard it directly from providers in my district. This legislation is a priority for them and one that would immediately make a positive impact throughout the 70<sup>th</sup> District and other similar areas throughout the state. The bill passed with strong bipartisan support last year and I hope we'll have the same support this week," VanderMeer continued.

VanderMeer authored and passed <u>the Medical Licensure Compact</u> in her first term, during the 2015-2016 legislative session, and authored and passed <u>the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact</u> during the 2017-2018 legislative session, and authored and passed <u>the Medical Licensure Compact Re-</u> <u>Authorization Act</u> during the current legislative session.

She recently released an opinion column related to the governor vetoing Assembly Bill 76 and signing <u>Senate Bill 74</u>, the Medical Licensure Compact Re-Authorization Act, into law. That column can be found here: <u>http://legis.wisconsin.gov/assembly/70/vandermeer/media/1407/vandermeer-column-mixed-messages-from-governor-s-office-on-patient-access-to-healthcare-providers.pdf</u>

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