



NANCY VANDERMEER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 70TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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Assembly Passes VanderMeer Bills

Madison – On Wednesday, the State Assembly passed two pieces of legislation authored by Representative Nancy VanderMeer (R-Tomah).

[Assembly Bill 724](#) would allow veterans that are discharged from military service for refusing to take a COVID-19 vaccine to be eligible for the state's preferential hiring system, assuming all other existing conditions are met.

[Assembly Bill 725](#) would make the restrictions in a non-compete agreement for an employee to not compete with his or her employer or principal after termination within a specified territory and during a specified time illegal if an employee is terminated from employment by an employer with 100 or more employees for choosing not to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, or for refusing to provide information regarding the individual's COVID-19 vaccination status.

"The idea for Assembly Bill 724 was provoked after hearing from enlisted service members in the 70th Assembly District with a desire to not have to take the COVID-19 vaccine. In the interest of not losing out on talented individuals that have honorably served their country and state based on politically driven decisions from the Biden Administration and a number of federal agencies, this bill allows service members to qualify for the existing state preferential hiring system and continue their public service," VanderMeer shared.

"Assembly Bill 725 is a worker freedom bill. At a time when workers in our state are forced to endure unprecedented federal overreach and the atrocious economic policies of the Biden Administration and Democrats in Washington, D.C., at the state level, we need to do whatever we can to allow workers to work, produce and provide for themselves and their families," she continued.

The State Senate passed the Senate version of both bills, [SB 707](#) and [SB 708](#), via voice vote on February 15, 2022. Senator Steve Nass (R-Whitewater) is the Senate lead author on both proposals. Both bills will now be sent to the governor for approval.

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