



JAMES W. EDMING

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 87TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

For Immediate Release
March 17, 2015

Contact: Rep. James W. Edming
(608) 266-7506

Rep. Edming Approves Increased Speed Limit

Madison – State Representative James W. Edming (R-Glen Flora) voted in favor of a bill to increase the speed limit to 70 miles per hour on designated highways.

“I am pleased to see Wisconsin raise the speed limit,” said Rep. Edming. “This bill is not only positive for tourism and business, but also makes safety a priority. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation will be given the ability to determine which roads are appropriate for the increased speed limit.”

Under [Assembly Bill 27](#), Wisconsin would return to the traditional 70 mph speed limit on rural highways. This practice stopped in 1973 when the federal government mandated lower speed limits due to a nationwide fuel shortage. In 1995, the federal regulations ended and states had the authority to change their speed limits. Currently, Wisconsin is the only state in the Midwest with a 65 mph speed limit.

“More Wisconsinites are commuting further to work each day and this legislation will ensure that they get home earlier and just as safely,” said Rep. Edming.

After increasing the speed limit, Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, and Utah found a decline in the total number of traffic fatalities. Traffic safety experts linked the reduction in the number of accidents by decreasing drivers’ variance in speed.

The bill now moves to the State Senate.

###