



---

# JAMES W. EDMING

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 87<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

For Immediate Release  
Contact: Rep. James Edming

May 4, 2017  
(608) 266-7506

## **Rep. Edming's Rural Wellness Bill Receives Public Hearing**

*Legislation Would Provide Grants for the Creation of Rural Wellness Facilities and Programs*

**MADISON** – Yesterday, Representative James Edming (R-Glen Flora) testified before the Assembly Committee on Rural Development and Mining in support of [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 222](#), legislation that would provide \$500,000 in grant funding for the creation of rural wellness facilities and programs. Edming is co-authoring the bill with Senator Jerry Petrowski (R-Marathon).

“I am pleased to see this important legislation receive a public hearing,” said Rep. Edming. “I am proud to author AB 222 because it will help to address real health care needs in rural areas of our state.”

AB 222 would allocate \$500,000 to the Department of Health Services (DHS) to distribute as grants to support the creation wellness facilities and programs in rural areas of Wisconsin. Under the bill, DHS would be required to award at least two grants of up to \$250,000 with the funding provided and requires the grant recipient to match the funds awarded.

“Better access to health care is one of the most pressing needs in rural Wisconsin,” said Rep. Edming. “AB 222 is being brought forward to address that need. By investing in wellness in rural Wisconsin we will be keeping our rural population healthier which will help reduce the costs of health care and create a more productive workforce.”

AB 222 is part of a package of rural healthcare bills put forward by the [Rural Wisconsin Initiative](#) (RWI). The RWI is a group of legislators committed to improving access to health care, education, technology, and workforce development in rural Wisconsin.

###