



MARY FELZKOWSKI

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 35th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Office: (608) 266-7694
Toll Free: (888) 534-0035
Rep.Felzkowski@legis.wi.gov

P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708-8952

Rep. Felzkowski Supports Increased Health Care Access

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT: Rep. Mary Felzkowski

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608-266-7694

Madison- Rep. Mary Felzkowski (R-Irma) voted in support of a number of health care measures that would benefit citizens in the Northwoods and across Wisconsin on the floor of the Assembly today:

Two health care access bills authored by Representative Felzkowski passed the floor of the Assembly with bipartisan support.

One bill would encourage health care professionals to serve in rural areas by making them eligible for loan assistance if they serve in a free and charitable clinic. Under current law, health care professionals are eligible for loan assistance if they serve in rural or 'eligible practice areas.' This bill adds free and charitable clinics to the list of eligible practice areas.

Another bill would allow pharmacists the ability to prescribe oral contraceptives to women over the age of eighteen. As much of rural Wisconsin faces a physician shortage, many women lack access to this medication. OBGYNs and pharmacists support this legislation, which will remove a barrier to access to a medication used by 70% of women.

Yet another great bill that passed the Assembly will provide hospitals and clinics the opportunity to employ new technologies and utilize telehealth services with their patients, enabling them to provide care to more people in need.

The Assembly also voted to override Governor Evers' decision to remove \$15 million that the Legislature put into the budget for a regional crisis center to serve Northern Wisconsin.

"Perhaps the most important vote I took today was on the veto override of Governor Evers' funding cut for the mental health crisis center that would have served northern Wisconsin. Unfortunately, my Democrat colleagues from Northern Wisconsin were unable to vote for their districts and for their constituents. Because of Governor Evers and the Assembly Democrats, rural Wisconsinites are once again being denied the opportunity to have the mental health services that are not only readily available in Milwaukee and Madison, but are paid for by taxes from all over the state, including the Northwoods."

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Representative Felzkowski represents the 35th Assembly District which includes portions of Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, and Shawano Counties.