

For Immediate Release: Contact State Representative Warren Petryk January 13, 2020 (608) 266-0660

<u>Petryk Bill Addressing CNA Shortage to Receive Veto</u> <u>Override Vote in Assembly</u>

Madison - State Representative Warren Petryk (R-Town of Washington) announced that Assembly Bill 76, authored by Rep. Petryk and a bipartisan group of Representatives and Senators, was scheduled for a veto override vote in the Assembly for Wednesday.

"Today, the Wisconsin Assembly Rules Committee scheduled critically-needed action on Assembly Bill 76. This vote is needed because the governor chose to ignore the voices of seniors, persons with disabilities, caregivers, long-term care providers, healthcare providers, and members of his own party and vetoed this bipartisan piece of legislation," said Petryk.

Overriding a veto requires the support of two-thirds of both the Assembly and a Senate. If overridden, this legislation will remove a significant barrier preventing workers from becoming certified nursing assistants and will ensure quality long-term care is available for our aging population.

"Earlier in the session Assembly Bill 76 passed the Assembly with bipartisan support and the 66 votes needed for a successful veto override. I hope we can get there again," said Petryk.

Assembly Bill 76 would prohibit the State of Wisconsin from requiring CNA instructional programs to exceed federal minimum requirements while not affecting the testing or knowledge requirements for an individual to become certified. This change would align Wisconsin with federal requirements and those of neighboring states, including Minnesota, Iowa, and Michigan.

"Rather than continuing to pass the buck like the governor has in this matter, a successful veto override will help Wisconsin begin addressing the critical shortage of skilled Certified Nursing Assistants who are responsible for providing care to seniors and other vulnerable citizens. I thank the Assembly Rules Committee for their compassion in giving hope to seniors and family members who worry about accessing quality and adequately-staffed long-term care," said Petryk.