

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Rep. John Nygren January 22, 2019 (888) 534-0089

## Nygren Statement on Pre-Existing Conditions

**Madison**--State Representative John Nygren (R-Marinette), Co-chair of the Joint Committee on Finance released the following statement:

"Today, the State Assembly delivered on our promise and passed Assembly Bill 1, which protects insurance coverage for Wisconsinites with pre-existing conditions. As we promised to do last year, we made this issue priority number one. I am proud to see that this issue was supported in a bipartisan manner, with ideas being offered by Governor Evers and accepted by Republicans in the Assembly."

Last year, Republicans in the State Assembly, as well as Governor Walker, had the foresight to work to ensure any future uncertainty at the federal level would not mean a loss of protections for pre-existing conditions. Today's vote protects pre-existing conditions for Wisconsinites should the Affordable Care Act be eliminated. Additionally, through bipartisan collaboration, this bill removes lifetime caps for coverage."

"Today's action cements what we already know, Wisconsin remains one of the best place in the nation for health care quality and affordability. I am proud to have once again voted to protect coverage for preexisting conditions".

The federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (ARHQ) named Wisconsin 4th in the nation for highest overall health care quality among all 50 states. AHRQ began issuing its State Snapshots in 2006, and Wisconsin has consistently ranked in the top four states in 10 of 12 years. Additionally, US News recently ranked Wisconsin's health care system as the 12th most affordable in the nation.

"This is just another example, in a long line of them, of why states cannot count on the federal government. The best ideas happen at the state level and Wisconsin has a proud heritage of stable, affordable, high-quality care. Whether it was passing a reinsurance program or ensuring coverage of preexisting conditions, Wisconsin has been able to act where the federal government has been unable to."

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