



## Vukmir Named WHA 2014 Health Advocate Award

**MADISON (April 17, 2014)** ---- Senator Leah Vukmir (R-Wauwatosa) received the Wisconsin Hospital Association (WHA) Health Care Advocate of the Year Award April 16 at WHA's Advocacy Day in Madison. WHA presented this year's award to Vukmir in recognition of her collaborative efforts with hospitals and health care providers on several key issues during the 2013-2014 Legislative session.

"Senator Vukmir has not only been our partner, but she has been a champion on several of WHA's priority issues. She helped us pass legislation that 'fixed' the Supreme Court's *Jandre* decision; enacted long-overdue legislation that modernized hospital regulation in our state; and, she secured crucial changes in the mental health medical records law that will lead to better, more coordinated care for those with mental illness," according to WHA Executive Vice President Eric Borgerding.

Borgerding said Vukmir has been a consistent voice against stifling regulations and she is a dedicated care giver.

"Senator Vukmir uses her knowledge of nursing and patient care to improve the quality and value of Wisconsin's health care," Borgerding added.

A registered nurse and certified pediatric nurse practitioner, the senator received a bachelor of science degree in nursing from Marquette University and a master's degree in nursing from the University of Wisconsin - Madison where she specialized in child development and primary care treatment of children. She is a nationally-certified pediatric nurse practitioner with more than 25 years of nursing and teaching experience.

Vukmir is serving in her first term in the Wisconsin Senate. She previously served four terms in the Wisconsin Assembly. She chairs the Senate's Committee on Health and Human Services and co-chairs the Legislature's Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules.

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