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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Governor Signs Bill to Promote Fish Habitat on Wisconsin Lakes

Madison- Today, Rep. Rob Swearingen (R- Rhinelander) released the following statement after Senate Bill 315 was signed into Law by Governor Scott Walker. [Senate Bill 315](#) was authored by Representative Swearingen and Senator Gudex (R - Fond du Lac) at the request of the Lake George Association and others in the 34th Assembly District.

Senate Bill 315 was drafted to improve fish and wildlife habitat on Wisconsin waterways by removing civil liability from property owners placing Department of Natural Resources (DNR) permitted structures in navigable waters and wetlands. Senate Bill 315 will keep the rules and regulations in place for all permits, while removing liability if and when the DNR specifications are met. This proposal will continue to protect our environment through DNR permits and specifications while boosting fish habitat statewide.

“During this legislative session my office was contacted by a number of property owners who were hesitant to pursue a DNR permit for placing a fish crib or other coarse woody habitat due to liability. After working closely with officials at the DNR, I am confident that Senate Bill 315 will protect Wisconsin property owners and promote fish and wildlife habitat. I am very pleased that Governor Walker signed Senate Bill 315 into law,” said Rep. Swearingen.

Governor Walker signed a total of 58 bills into law on March 1.

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