



WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE

**Deb Andraca**

23RD ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

BAYSIDE FOX POINT GRAFTON MEQUON THIENSVILLE WHITEFISH BAY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Rep. Deb Andraca Celebrates Funding for Cedar Gorge Clay Bluffs**

131 Acres with  $\frac{3}{4}$  Mile of Lake Michigan Coastline Will Be Preserved Forever

GRAFTON, Wis. -- DNR Secretary Preston Cole and Representative Deb Andraca (D-Whitefish Bay) announced today that Governor Evers is doing what the Republican-led Joint Finance Committee refused to do: allocate funding to ensure that five conservation projects, including Cedar Gorge Clay Bluffs in Ozaukee County, can move forward. The five grants were approved by DNR for Knowles-Nelson Stewardship funding, but each received an “anonymous objection” – but no public hearing about the objection – as part of the JFC’s passive review process.

Representative Andraca released the following statement:

“Since I was elected I have been working to save this project with state and local officials, the Ozaukee Washington Land Trust, my constituents, and my colleagues – all of whom overwhelmingly support preserving Cedar Gorge.

Unfortunately, the Republican-controlled Joint Finance Committee hid behind an “anonymous objection,” refusing to hold a public hearing to discuss the objections to this and four other DNR-approved projects.

That’s wrong.

In today’s Wisconsin state legislature, all too often the will of an anonymous few can drown out the voice of the voters. But thanks to Governor Evers, today is not that day.

20 years from now, when our children and grandchildren are walking in Cedar Gorge overlooking Lake Michigan, it won’t matter if a Republican or Democrat was in charge when Cedar Gorge was created. All that will matter to them is that there were people in our state government and our community who cared enough, and worked hard enough, to make it happen.

I am so grateful Governor Evers’ is willing to take action to ensure this park will be here for future generations to enjoy, and I hope the Joint Finance Committee will stop hiding behind ‘anonymous objections’ and return to Wisconsin’s proud tradition of an open, honest, and transparent government.”

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