



JON PLUMER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 42nd ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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Assembly Passes Legislation Protecting and Preserving Wisconsin Farmland

MADISON, WI – Today, the Assembly passed legislation to help ensure Wisconsin’s farmland is being used for agricultural purposes. The legislation prevents someone from claiming the Farmland Preservation Tax Credit if the farmland is being used for a large-scale solar project. Rep. Plumer voted in favor of the bill.

“In recent years, I’ve heard from countless constituents regarding their concern for massive solar energy projects being built in our region,” said Rep. Plumer. “The goal of the legislation we passed today is to make sure we are not subsidizing large-scale solar projects with a tax credit when they take up precious farmland.”

Current law allows a landowner to claim 100% of the farmland preservation tax credit, even if only 50% of that land is used for agricultural purposes and the other half contains a solar project. Under this bill, the landowner would be prevented from doing so. However, solar energy systems on the land that are used for agriculture purposes would not prevent the landowner from claiming the tax credit. The Wisconsin Farm Bureau registered in support of the bill.

“I think this bill is a move in the right direction as we work to find the correct land-use balance in our state,” added Plumer. “Earlier this session, I authored legislation to ensure local communities and residents have more information and input when a large solar project is being considered. I look forward to continuing conversations on this issue and finding additional solutions.”

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