



ROBERT BROOKS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 60TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Representative Brooks Supports Bipartisan Legislation Addressing Water Quality

Madison, WI—Representative Rob Brooks (R-Saukville) joined a bipartisan group of legislators in supporting a package of legislative recommendations from the Speaker’s Task Force on Water Quality. The bicameral task force proved to be an unprecedented, bipartisan effort to ensure that Wisconsinites have access to safe, clean drinking water and brought together producers, environmentalists, and academics to craft state-of-the-art water quality legislation. Thirteen bills, based off the recommendations made by task force members, were released at yesterday’s press conference.

“It was an honor to be appointed to the Speaker’s Task Force on Water Quality and be afforded the opportunity to help ensure that every Wisconsinite is afforded with access to safe, clean drinking water. I applaud the work of the Speaker’s Task Force on Water Quality and its commitment to protecting and preserving the quality of Wisconsin’s drinking water for generations to come,” Representative Brooks stated.

The task force held 14 hearings across Wisconsin and legislators heard from hundreds of citizens and more than 70 organizations that are dedicated to protecting Wisconsin’s water resources. The \$10 million investment announced, earlier this week, includes innovative proposals as well as additional investment in programs that have been shown to be effective. The package of bills includes: the development of a central water quality state office; funds for research; assistance to farmers to implement conservation practices; support for our county conservation departments; and additional mapping and public education tools. The recommendations also address emerging contaminants and kick start the development of new programs in the University of Wisconsin System to equip Wisconsin’s workforce with the skills necessary to tackle our water quality challenges.

“I was proud to join Senator Howard Marklein (R-Spring Green), in authoring LRB-4984, legislation allowing for a broader distribution of project funding for the Municipal Flood Control Grant Program. This bill removes the priority order from NR 199 of administrative rules and requires that cost-effectiveness and loss of tax base are considered when awarding grants. Wisconsin’s water quality challenges are decades in the making. This is not a problem that will be solved immediately. The package of bills introduced at yesterday’s press conference are a good first step in the right direction,” said Representative Brooks

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