



Media Release

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Rep. Shankland Awarded *Champion of Electric Cooperatives Award* from Wisconsin Electric Cooperatives Association

MADISON—Yesterday, the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association presented Rep. Katrina Shankland (D-Stevens Point) with the *Champion of Electric Cooperatives Award*. Upon receiving the award, Rep. Shankland released the following statement:

“As a member of the Wisconsin State Assembly, I have enjoyed working closely with the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association and Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative. Their work to deliver affordable, reliable electricity to rural communities across the state is commendable. I especially appreciated the opportunity to work closely with them on legislation I introduced to crack down on the spread of a harmful invasive species, wild parsnip. They are a great partner in the Capitol, and it is an honor to receive this award.

"I am proud to champion our rural electric cooperatives in the Legislature —they are integral to serving the needs of our state and provide essential services to the most rural communities in Wisconsin. In my district, the Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative in Rosholt has been providing excellent service, returning excess margins to members, and keeping rates low for everyone in their service area. They also serve as a community hub, from offering pancake breakfasts to Toys for Toys drives, and they are key to rural economic development in Central Wisconsin. I want to thank the Wisconsin Electric Cooperatives Association for this recognition and look forward to continuing our work together."

Asked why the Wisconsin Electric Cooperatives Association selected Rep. Shankland for the *Champion of Electric Cooperatives Award*, Rob Richards, Director of Government Relations and External Affairs said the following:

“It was a very easy decision for the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association’s Legislative and Regulatory Committee to unanimously choose Rep. Katrina Shankland as a recipient of our 2024 Champion of Electric Cooperatives award. Katrina has always recognized that electric cooperatives are focused on their local communities and the consumer members whom they serve. Whether it’s been fighting to eradicate wild parsnip to help protect our line crews, or taking direct action to prevent the relocation of sexually violent criminals into our rural communities, she fights for the issues that we care about and truly understands the challenges we face.”



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Katrina Shankland
71st ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Lila Shower, President and CEO of the Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative, added:

“I was honored to present Representative Shankland with the Champion of Electric Cooperatives award at the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association’s annual Education and Lobby Days meeting held on January 31, 2024. Representative Shankland has worked on behalf of Wisconsin Electric co-ops on many issues, most recently authoring the legislation on wild parsnip, which poses an exposure danger to line crews in the field. We look forward to working with Rep. Shankland on future issues as they arise.”



Rep. Shankland speaks to WECA members at their annual legislative conference



Rep. Shankland joins WECA leaders to revive the Champion of Electric Cooperatives Award

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