



Media Release

For Immediate Release
September 14, 2023

Contact: Rep. Katrina Shankland
(608) 267-9649

Rep. Shankland Issues Statement Regarding Passage of GOP's Redistricting Bill

MADISON – Today, following the passage of [Assembly Bill 415](#) in the Wisconsin State Assembly, Representative Katrina Shankland (D-Stevens Point) released the following statement:

“Throughout my time in the Legislature, I have strongly advocated for a fair, nonpartisan redistricting process to ensure that every voice and vote in Wisconsin matters. In fact, I co-sponsored bipartisan legislation, [Assembly Bill 395](#), to implement an independent redistricting process often referred to as the *Iowa Model*.

“Just 48 hours ago, the majority party held a press conference announcing their intent to fast-track their own redistricting legislation, skipping a public hearing and the committee process where experts and members of the public offer testimony and bills are vetted and improved. While Speaker Vos proclaimed that his redistricting bill would be based on the *Iowa Model*, Iowans from both parties have debunked his attempt to hoodwink the public.

“In a joint statement from the Iowa State Auditor, a Democrat, and the former Republican Party of Iowa Chairman, they declared that ***‘the proposal currently in front of the Wisconsin Legislature cannot accurately be called the Iowa model because it lacks the elements that have been the foundation for our system’s success.’***”

“Whereas the *Iowa Model* contains safeguards to ensure a fair map-making process is utilized, [Assembly Bill 415](#) includes no such protections. In fact, the legislation that passed the State Assembly today allows members of the Legislature to amend the maps as they deem fit—all but ensuring the party in charge, with just one member of the minority party, could lock in gerrymandered maps in perpetuity, regardless of the will of the people.

“Amidst other serious threats to our democracy, it is important to note that this week, Speaker Vos also called the redistricting bill an ***‘off ramp’*** to impeachment. Attempting to gain votes for a partisan, Vos-style redistricting bill in order to avert one party’s threat to impeach a duly elected Supreme Court justice is simply disgraceful.

“As your State Representative, I am focused on the real issues at hand: protecting our democracy, ensuring that every vote counts equally, and working toward real progress in safeguarding our state from *any* partisan interests misusing their power now into the future. I will continue fighting to ensure that Wisconsin has fair maps and a nonpartisan redistricting process. I stand ready to work in good faith with anyone who shares that vision. It’s what Wisconsin deserves.”

###