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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 4, 2017

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Assembly Republicans Pass Special Interest Backed High Capacity Well Legislation

Jeopardizing Public Health & Infringing Private Property Rights

MADISON – Tonight the Wisconsin State Assembly passed Senate Bill 76 which limits DNR oversight and creates lifetime-permits for high capacity well users, putting public health and private property rights in the firing line.

“Despite the opposition from healthcare organizations in Wisconsin including the Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards and the Wisconsin Public Health Association, this bill was rushed through the process, without even receiving a vote before an Assembly Committee. I am disappointed, but not surprised that Assembly Republicans supported this bill which has been pushed by special interest groups that have bankrolled their campaigns in recent years.”

“I cannot support this bill, in fact every constituent who contacted me on this issue was opposed to the bill, not a single supporter contacted me with their reasons for their support. I share their concerns and every resident in the State should be concerned that they will be the losers when this bill becomes law. This bill creates winners and losers, the winners will be the big agricultural, high capacity well users. The losers will be the public, and property owners who rely on private wells for their drinking water or who live or visit their waterfront properties that now look over dried up lakes and creeks.”

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