



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P. O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 1, 2014

CONTACT: Sen. Lehman 608-266-1832
Sen. Wirch 608-267-8979
Rep. Barca 608-266-5504
Rep. Ohnstad 608-266-0455
Rep. Mason 608-266-0634

AREA LEGISLATORS LEAD CONSERVATION SCORECARD

MADISON - Five area legislators were among 45 honored today for their flawless commitment to protecting Wisconsin's natural resources. Senators John Lehman and Bob Wirch and Representatives Peter Barca, Tod Ohnstad and Cory Mason all posted 100% voting records in the past session on the League of Conservation Voters scorecard released this morning.

With only one third of the Legislature earning the designation of Conservation Champion, the five Racine and Kenosha area Democrats achieved notably strong records supporting efforts to protect Wisconsin resources and opposing bills to roll back environmental protections.

"I'm honored to join my colleagues from Southeast Wisconsin recognized for our support of Wisconsin's natural resources and environment," Sen. Lehman (D-Racine) said.

"As a longtime member of the Senate Natural Resources Committee, I am particularly pleased to be recognized for my commitment to protecting Wisconsin's outdoors and heritage," Sen. Wirch (D-Somers) said.

While acknowledging the tremendous potential harm from iron mining bills passed despite strong grass-roots opposition, the League scorecard noted success in passing half of their high-priority proposals and defeating three quarters of the bills designated as most potentially harmful to the environment.

"Wisconsin's clean air, water and lands have defined our state for generations and our health and economy depend on them," Rep. Barca (D-Kenosha) said. "I am proud to stand with my Democratic colleagues on the Conservation Honor Roll. Together, we can lead Wisconsin by developing clean energy and ensuring our clean air, lakes, forests and fisheries are intact for years to come."

"I'm proud to be able to work with groups like the Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters to protect and preserve our state's natural resources," Rep. Mason (D-Racine) said. "Wisconsin's proud tradition of stewardship of our lands, water, and air is under attack and I'm honored to maintain my 100% lifetime record as a WLCV Conservation Champion."

"Doing the right thing for our land, water, and air is right for the people I represent in the 65th District," Rep. Ohnstad (D-Kenosha) said.

A leader in championing protections for Wisconsin's air, water, land and public health, the League of Conservation Voters issues the Scorecard noting legislators' votes on specific conservation-related bills, amendments and budget proposals following each session. The Scorecard can be accessed online at:

<http://conservationvoters.org/scorecard/scorecard-2013-2014/>