

## State Representative • 57th Assembly District

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Contact: Rep. Amanda Stuck (608)266-3070

## Rep. Stuck – Statement on Closing of VF Outdoor's JanSport Facility in Greenville

State Tax Credit Recipient Cutting Jobs from the Fox Cities

MADISON – Rep. Stuck issued the following statement following the announcement of the closure of the VF Outdoor JanSport facility in Greenville, WI, resulting in the loss of 380 jobs in the Fox Cities.

"My heart goes out to the nearly 400 individuals who will be out of a job with the closing of this facility. While the facility is not in my district, any constituents in the 57<sup>th</sup> Assembly District should feel free to reach out to my office and we will assist in applying for unemployment benefits and accessing other resources to help them find new employment in our community."

"I am however deeply concerned that this facility is closing and that this company received state tax credits to help incentivize their expansion and job retention. On May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) certified VF Outdoor, Inc. for \$880,500 in tax credits to help create 76 new jobs and retain a further 113 positions between April 2014 and April 2017. I hope that WEDC will use every tool available to them to recoup the costs of these tax credits from VF Outdoor as they shutter operations in our community."

"It is disappointing that we have yet another example where a company in Wisconsin received taxpayer support through loans, grants, or tax credits only to pick up their operations and lay off hundreds of hardworking Wisconsinites. We need to do better to help keep jobs in Wisconsin, to help Wisconsin-based companies expand, and to make sure that those receiving state aid are committed to our state and our communities."

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\*Attached:

<u>USA Today Article Announcing VF Outdoors Expansion August 2015</u> <u>WEDC Economic Development Report</u>