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Date: June 20, 2023

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## Senator Agard and Democratic Colleagues Introduce Pollinator Protection Package

MADISON – Today, Senate Democratic Leader (D-Madison), and her Democratic colleagues introduced the Pollinator Protection Package to promote a healthy and robust pollinator population in Wisconsin. The package creates rules for state agencies on the use of certain insecticides and native prairie and forage plants, allows local governments to limit or prohibit the usage of certain insecticides, establishes proper labeling of certain plants, creates specialty license plates, establishes Rusty Patched Bumble Bee as the state native insect, and designates June 2023 as Pollinator Awareness month. Senator Agard released the following statement:

"Protecting our state's natural pollinators is vital in protecting Wisconsin's well-being. Pollinators play a quiet, yet incredibly important role in our communities – bolstering our agricultural economy, preserving our environmental health, and developing a positive coexistence between ecosystems.

"I am proud to join my Democratic colleagues in introducing the Pollinator Protection Package to ensure our pollinator communities will be healthier and promote a strong population for years to come. Ensuring our pollinators can thrive is key to promoting a bright and healthy future for Wisconsin. These bills are un-bee-lievably important."

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Senator Melissa Agard was elected by her colleagues to serve as Senate Democratic Leader in November of 2022. Senator Agard represents the 16th Senate District, encompassing Sun Prairie, Cottage Grove, Monona, Fitchburg, McFarland, and parts of Madison.