



BRAD PFAFF
STATE SENATOR

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Senator Pfaff Applauds Passage of Producer-Led Watershed Bill

Madison, WI – This week, both the Senate and Assembly of the Wisconsin State Legislature passed legislation which would allow producer-led watershed groups located in adjacent watersheds to receive watershed protection grants from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection. The legislation also makes producer-led watershed groups eligible to receive lake protection, management classification, and river protection grants from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

After the legislation’s passage, State Senator Brad Pfaff (D-Onalaska) said,

“When we invest in water quality, we invest in healthier soil and greater yields for our farmers.”

“As ranking member on the Senate Agriculture and Tourism Committee and Wisconsin’s former Agriculture Secretary-designee, I recognize the important role producer-led watershed groups play in conserving our land and water. Rather than a top-down approach, the producer-led watershed protection grant program recognizes Wisconsin’s unique landscape and gives local landowners the autonomy to care for their water and land.”

“In 2023, watershed protection grants have helped the Coon Creek Community Watershed, the Bad-Axe Farmer-Led Watershed Council, and the Tainter Creek Farmer Led Watershed Council enhance and preserve the beauty of our rolling hills, coulees, and valleys in the Driftless.”

“I was proud to cosponsor this bipartisan legislation, which will help our farmers continue to be good stewards of Wisconsin’s natural resources. This bill is a win-win – a win for farmers, and a win for soil health and water quality.”

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Senator Brad Pfaff represents the 32nd Senate District, which includes La Crosse, Vernon, Crawford, and southern Monroe County.