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# LOREN OLDENBURG

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 96<sup>th</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Representative Oldenburg Releases Legislation Aimed to Promote Natural Flood Management**

MADISON – Representative Loren Oldenburg (R-Viroqua) has released legislation with Senator Robert Cowles and Representative Jim Steineke that aims to promote natural flood management. LRB 1752 creates a general permit for hydrologic restoration projects and a hydrologic restoration and management advisory council.

“The Coulee Region is one of the top areas in the state that experiences 100 and even 500 year flooding events. As we experienced in 2018, and years prior, these flooding events have lasting and harmful effects on our rural communities,” stated Representative Oldenburg. “The creation of this general permit should make it easier for Wisconsinites to complete hydrologic restoration projects.”

LRB 1752 promotes hydrologic restoration projects in Wisconsin by creating a general permit for such projects, and the creation of The Hydrologic Restoration and Management Advisory Council. The advisory council will help with the development of hydrologic restoration projects and with training for management of such projects. Hydrologic restoration projects have several positive benefits, they help landscapes manage flooding, reduce runoff, improve water quality, and refresh ground water to improve fish and wildlife habitats.

"Across the state we see an urgent need to restore upper watershed wetlands and reconnect floodplains to help reduce flooding and erosion, replenish groundwater, and enhance fish and wildlife habitat," says Wisconsin Wetlands Association's Executive Director, Tracy Hames, "this bill will help encourage and promote the types of actions needed to restore the health of our land, water, and communities."

This legislation was created in consultation with the Wisconsin Wetlands Association, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

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*The 96th Assembly District includes all of Crawford county, most of Vernon county, and a portion of Monroe county. The largest cities within the district are Prairie du Chien and Viroqua.*