



Wisconsin Land+Water Conservation Association

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February 11, 2020

The Honorable Sen. Alberta Darling
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707

The Honorable Rep. John Nygren
PO Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Co-Chairs Darling and Nygren, and Joint Finance Committee Members,

I am contacting you on behalf of WI Land+Water's 800 statewide members—county land and water conservation department staff and elected county board supervisors—to urge you to support SB 723 (AB 790). We appreciated the unanimous bipartisan support both of these bills received in their respective committee hearings, and the additional overwhelming support shown by agricultural and conservation interests, alike.

The bill would provide an additional \$2.9 million dollars to county land and water conservation departments to better enable them to provide boots-on-the-ground technical assistance to farmers and private landowners, helping them achieve their land management objectives, while at the same time meeting baseline conservation standards. Among other things, county conservation departments support both producer-led and waterfront property groups, and they act as the front-line responders in emergency situations such as flood events.

As demonstrated by the broad support for increased funding to county land and water conservation departments, Wisconsinites see great value in the role these professionals play to protect water quality and support viable agriculture at the same time.

I ask that you support SB 723 (AB 790) when it comes before you for a vote.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matt Krueger'.

Matt Krueger, Executive Director