



LOREN OLDENBURG

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 96th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Representative Oldenburg Votes to Invest in Rural Wisconsin

MADISON – Representative Loren Oldenburg (Viroqua) voted to invest federal funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) into the communities of rural Wisconsin.

“Rural Wisconsin would strongly benefit from several of the policy initiatives that we passed today in the Wisconsin State Assembly,” stated Oldenburg. “Using these federal funds to help with the expansion of broadband, aid our farmers, fix our rural roads and provide property tax relief are commonsense ways that we can help rural communities.”

This afternoon the Wisconsin State Assembly passed a series of bills that will positively impact rural Wisconsin. The pandemic has highlighted our need to bolster broadband service in the state, [Assembly Bill 239](#) will invest \$500 million into broadband expansion grants. A program that helped the farmers of the 96th district in the first round of federal COVID-19 funding was the Farm Support Program. A portion of [Assembly Bill 235](#) would provide \$50 million in ARPA funding for a program similar to the Farm Support Program.

Representative Oldenburg also voted for [Assembly Bill 238](#) which would use some of the ARPA dollars for the fixing of local highways and bridges. Finally, [Assembly Bill 232](#) would positively impact property owners. This legislation would allow for some of the ARPA funding to be given as a 10% payment to all property taxpayers in the state.

Each of these bills were passed by the Wisconsin State Assembly when they convened for session on April 13, 2021.

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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.