



Amy Loudenbeck

REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S 31ST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

**Press Release
For Immediate Release**

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Loudenbeck Bill Heads to Governor's Desk

Madison- Earlier this week, Assembly Bill 277 authored by Rep. Amy Loudenbeck (R-Clinton) cleared the final legislative hurdle and now heads to Governor Evers to be signed.

Assembly Bill 277 authored with Senator Alberta Darling (R- River Hills) will allow the State Fair Park Board to issue permits to vendors to allow alcohol sales at the State Fair Park grounds and requires vendors to follow Chapter 125 with a few exceptions. The provisions in the bill would align Wisconsin Statutes with current and historic procedures for vendor alcohol sales at State Fair Park.

"In late 2019, during an internal review of State Fair Park alcohol policies, and reviewing a legal opinion from 2006, it came to our attention that some of the current operations were not holding up to state law. As a member of the State Fair Park Board, working with the staff at State Fair Park, we started working with the Department of Revenue and stakeholders to find a solution that would work to keep State Fair Park operating as they had been, while also following the laws dictating alcohol purchasing, selling and distribution", said Loudenbeck.

AB 277 is limited to alcohol beverage sales at State Fair Park only. Specifically, it allows SFP to issue permits to vendors to sell alcoholic beverages, similar to how the Department of Revenue issues permits to airports. Vendors do not need a separate municipal license, but must have a vendor contract and receive a permit from the State Fair Park Board. In addition, they must follow the rules and regulations in Chapter 125 with a few exceptions. AB 277 also creates an exemption to allow the Wisconsin Winery Association to sell bottles of wine without a separate municipal license.

"Representative Loudenbeck championed and passed needed legislation to give the Wisconsin State Fair Park Board the authority to issue alcohol permits to vendors on the grounds. This legislation will ensure that State Fair Park can operate with strong alcohol policies and procedures for the safety of our fairgoers and vendors. We, at State Fair Park, appreciate all her efforts to make this bill a reality," said John Yingling, State Fair Park Board Chairman.

"I look forward to having another bill signed by Governor Evers, and being able to enjoy all that the Wisconsin State Fair has to offer this August 5-15th" said Loudenbeck.

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