

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: June 24, 2021

Contact: Representative Snodgrass, 608-266-3070 Senator Agard, 608-266-9170 mabeck@gannett.com

Save the Bees with the Pollinator Protection Package

Legislators prioritize well-being of pollinators to ensure healthy ecosystems for generations

MADISON - Today, Representative Lee Snodgrass (D-Appleton) and Senator Melissa Agard (D-Madison) introduced the Pollinator Protection Package to promote a healthy and robust pollinator population in Wisconsin. The package prohibits the usage of certain insecticides by state agencies, allows local governments to limit or prohibit the usage of certain insecticides, and requires the proper labeling of plants that had received insecticide treatments at greenhouses or plant shops Representative Snodgrass and Senator Agard the following statements:

Representative Snodgrass:

"The importance of our pollinators and protecting their habitats is one of the few areas of universal agreement these days. We know that Wisconsin's pollinator populations are in decline and that this threatens Wisconsin's wildflowers, ecosystems, agricultural crops and natural areas. That's why I am proud to introduce this package of bills which will further the state's efforts to ensure that pollinator habitats are healthy and thriving. In Wisconsin alone, pollinators account for over \$55 million in crop production. Without thriving pollinator populations, our agricultural economic system would collapse and human food supplies would be in jeopardy. These bills make sense environmentally, socially and economically."

Senator Agard:

"Protecting our state's natural pollinators is absolutely crucial, yet too often goes forgotten. We depend on pollinators both agriculturally and economically, to secure our community's quality of life and health. As a state we must do more to protect the pollinators in our community, bolster environmental health, and develop a positive coexistence between ecosystems and our community.

"The Pollinator Protection Package ensures that our pollinator communities will be healthier and promote a strong population for years to come. By promoting pollinator health we can help Wisconsin achieve a bright, healthy, and buzzing future. I am proud to co-author these important bills."



###