

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Rep. Loren Oldenburg

August 9, 2021 (608) 266-3534

Representative Oldenburg's Bill Signed Into Law: 2021 Wisconsin Act 77

MADISON – Representative Loren Oldenburg (Viroqua) authored Assembly Bill 85 which authorizes the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to create a general permit for hydrologic restoration projects. Friday afternoon the bill was signed and is officially 2021 Wisconsin Act 77.

Under 2021 Wisconsin Act 77 the DNR can authorize permits for hydrologic restoration projects. Hydrologic restoration projects offer a natural, solution based approach to flood mitigation efforts. The 96th Assembly District has experienced many flood events, and community members in the district know how important it is to work toward practical flood mitigation.

"I'm glad to see this bill officially become law" said Oldenburg. "The ability for the DNR to authorize a permit for a hydrologic restoration project will speed up the time it takes to see these important projects through."

Prior to 2021 Wisconsin Act 77, in order to be issued a hydrologic restoration permit, the project would have to be supported by a federal agency. Act 77 reduces red-tape and will allow for these projects to be more widely used to naturally lower the peak of floods in the future.

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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.