



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P. O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For Further Information Contact:
State Representative Scott Gunderson
(R-Waterford) (608) 266-3363

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ASSEMBLY PASSES GREAT LAKES COMPACT

Passage is the Culmination of Hard Work and Compromise

MADISON... Representative Scott Gunderson (R-Waterford) joined an overwhelming bipartisan majority of the Wisconsin State Assembly to pass the Great Lakes Water Resources Compact. The Compact was written to protect one of our nation's most precious natural resources, the waters of the Great Lakes, from being diverted to far away and parched states like Arizona and Georgia.

"There were a lot of naysayers who did not believe that the Assembly wanted to pass the Compact," said Gunderson. "But, I promised from the very beginning of this process that we would not only pass a strong and fair Compact that did not place Wisconsin at an economic disadvantage to our neighboring states, but we would get it done this Legislative Session."

Today's passage of the Compact is the culmination of months of negotiations between Representative Gunderson, the Governor's office and the Department of Natural Resources.

"Passage of the Great Lakes Compact will not only ensure the waters of the Great Lakes are protected for generations to come, but also allow Southeast Wisconsin communities the opportunity to provide safe drinking water to their residents and businesses," continued Gunderson.

Gunderson concluded, "Today is the culmination of a great deal of hard on a very important issue. I have said many times that the Compact will be the most significant Legislation I will have the privilege to work on in my career in the Legislature, and I am glad that we took the time to ensure the Compact provided necessary protections for the Great Lakes and the State of Wisconsin."

The Compact must be approved by all eight great lakes states and the U.S. Congress before going into effect. Four other states have already passed the compact, (New York, Minnesota, Illinois and Indiana), while three states have not yet passed the Compact (Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania).