



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
JON RICHARDS

ASSISTANT MINORITY LEADER
WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

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Richards Applauds Historic Compact Vote *Calls on Pennsylvania and Ohio to Follow Suit*

MADISON – Rep. Jon Richards (D-Milwaukee) issued the following statement regarding passage of the Great Lakes Compact by the Wisconsin State Legislature today.

“I’m proud to finally say that today the Wisconsin State Legislature took a historic vote in favor of the Great Lakes Water Compact, and preserving the Great Lakes for generations to come.

With this vote, Wisconsin has sent a strong signal that we need to put tough laws in place to protect our water now. Populations in states to the southeast and southwest are only getting bigger and thirstier. The question is no longer if they’ll come after our water, but when. The Compact gives our state the best tools possible to fight those diversions.

This vote was a long time coming and almost didn’t happen. I’m proud that Wisconsin chose to lead on this issue and ratify our version of the Compact. After years of working on this document, it was great to see the legislature come together on a bi-partisan vote and do the right thing.

There is still work to be done, however. Today the Michigan Legislature approved their version of the Compact as well, leaving Pennsylvania and Ohio as the remaining Great Lakes States that have yet to ratify their versions of the Compact. I call on those states to pass their legislation as quickly as possible, and do the right thing for our Great Lakes.”

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