



Media Release

For Immediate Release
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Rep. Shankland Appointed to Wisconsin Environmental Education Board (WEEB)

MADISON –Representative Katrina Shankland (D-Stevens Point) is pleased to announce that she has been appointed to the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board (WEEB), headquartered at UW-Stevens Point. Rep. Shankland was appointed to the board by Assembly Minority Leader Peter Barca.

Since its inception in 1989 under Governor Thompson, WEEB has provided strong leadership on environmental education issues statewide. Members of the board represent diverse private and public sectors including industry, labor, forestry, energy, conservation, and education. Over the past ten years, WEEB has awarded nearly \$4.5 million in environmental education grants to schools, non-profit organizations, agencies, and tribal and local governments. Unfortunately, WEEB will be eliminated effective June 30, 2017 due to a provision in Governor Walker’s 2015-17 state budget.

Following her appointment, Rep. Shankland released the following statement:

“I’m honored to be appointed to the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board. I’ve participated in WEEB’s grant day in the past and have great respect for the many programs WEEB invests in and the work they do. As a new member, I look forward to supporting the board’s mission to promote environmental education and environmental-friendly policies. Many of the projects funded by WEEB support workforce development in key industries like forestry and agriculture, in addition to promoting our sporting heritage and natural resources. They also educate youth about sustainability, which is vital to our shared future success. I value the tremendous contributions they are making to environmental education in our state.

“I’m also extremely disappointed by the governor and legislature’s short-sighted decision to eliminate WEEB in the last budget. Since WEEB grant funding does not come from general purpose revenue, eliminating WEEB will be a huge blow to environmental education without saving the state any taxpayer money. I advocated for WEEB in the last budget and will fight to restore the board and its funding in the upcoming budget. Our children’s environmental education is too important to fall by the wayside.”

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