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February 11, 2019

NEWS RELEASE:
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Announced as Member of Speaker's Water Quality Task Force

MADISON— Senator Robert Cowles (R-Green Bay) released the following statement after the announcement that Senator Cowles will serve on the bipartisan, bicameral Speaker's Water Quality Task Force:

“With 15,000 lakes, 44,000 miles of rivers and streams, and enough groundwater to cover the entire state in 100 feet of water, Wisconsin is blessed with abundant water quantity but is still confronted by several key water quality issues. Clean water is fundamental for human health and crucial for maintaining the high standard of living Wisconsinites enjoy. As our knowledge of the water challenges we face evolve, so must the actions we employ to help Wisconsinites who are struggling with the search for clean water.

“Each watershed is different and the issues each face are unique. Water quality has long been a focus of mine and will continue to be a focus in my legislative agenda for the 2019-2020 Session. I'm look forward to the opportunity to work with the members of the Task Force on finding a framework to address issues throughout the state. Moreover, I'm excited to listen to the people of Wisconsin on the water issues they see in their own backyard, and I hope there will be a focus on implementing immediate solutions and accomplishing long-term goals.

“From nitrates polluting rural wells to algae blooms causing fish kills to the numerous challenges faced by our municipal wastewater treatment facilities trying to keep up with new regulations, there are a vast array of issues surrounding water quality in Wisconsin that deserve our time and attention.

“Securing clean water for all residents is an important goal, but I trust that with renewed focus on this issue and the bipartisan, bicameral makeup of this Task Force, we have the opportunity to make true progress in addressing water quality. I look forward to seeing what this group can do to address today's problems and anticipate challenges ahead in providing drinkable, fishable, and swimmable water for all Wisconsin residents.

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