



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

March 5, 2020

U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin  
709 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

U.S. Senator Ron Johnson  
328 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

Dear Honorable Members of the Wisconsin Delegation to the United States Senate,

The Great Lakes play a tremendous role in shaping life here in Wisconsin. They serve as both a source of recreation in Wisconsin, as well as playing a foundational role in how our economy has developed. We take pride in the beauty and majesty of the largest group of freshwater lakes on this planet, and they continue to occupy an important place in our state's identity.

However, as you may be aware, water levels in the Great Lakes have risen to near-historic levels and have created dramatic consequences for shoreline communities. On January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020, Governor Tony Evers declared a State of Emergency in Wisconsin in Kenosha, Racine, and Milwaukee counties due to the damage incurred by a storm occurring between January 10<sup>th</sup> and January 12<sup>th</sup> that caused significant shoreline damage. This underscored the ongoing near-historic lake levels that have caused tremendous damage to both homes and public infrastructure along the shoreline.

On December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 729 with bipartisan support. As part of this legislation, the Huizenga Amendment, offered by Representative Bill Huizenga (R – Michigan), was added (and passed on a voice vote), creating the "Living Shoreline Grant Program." This amendment provides \$50 million in grants to state and local governments, tribes, and nonprofit groups for projects to protect and restore shorelines from erosion, coastal storms, and high water. This additional funding is critical for shoreline communities to provide the essential protections from the high water present in the Great Lakes.

This letter serves as our formal request that you bring this issue before Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell for a vote in the U.S. Senate. Shoreline communities up and down the Great Lakes need this additional funding to prevent future erosion to homes and public infrastructure.



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Your attention to this issue is greatly appreciated. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to hearing from you and appreciate your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Tip McGuire  
State Representative  
64<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Joel Kitchens  
State Representative  
1<sup>st</sup> Assembly District

Bob Wirth  
State Senator  
22<sup>nd</sup> Senate District

Greta Neubauer  
State Representative  
66<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Samatha Kerkman  
State Representative  
61<sup>st</sup> Assembly District

Van Wanggaard  
State Senator  
21<sup>st</sup> Senate District

Tim Carpenter  
State Senator  
3<sup>rd</sup> Senate District

Dave Hansen  
State Senator  
30<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Chris Larson  
State Senator  
9<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Mark Miller  
State Senator  
16<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Jimmy Anderson  
State Representative  
47<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Jill Billings  
State Representative  
95<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



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P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

Robert Books  
State Representative  
60<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Dave Considine  
State Representative  
81<sup>st</sup> Assembly District

David Crowley  
State Representative  
17<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Jason Fields  
State Representative  
11<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Staush Gruszynski  
State Representative  
90<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Gary Hebl  
State Representative  
46<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Nick Milroy  
State Representative  
73<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District

John Nygren  
State Representative  
89<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Tod Ohnstad  
State Representative  
65<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Soudy Pope  
State Representative  
80<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Timothy Ramthun  
State Representative  
59<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Jessie Rodriguez  
State Representative  
21<sup>st</sup> Assembly District

Katrina Shankland  
State Representative  
71<sup>st</sup> Assembly District

Christine Sinicki  
State Representative  
20<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Mark Spreitzer  
State Representative  
45<sup>th</sup> Assembly District



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P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

Lisa Subeck  
State Representative  
78<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Paul Tittl  
State Representative  
25<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Robyn Vining  
State Representative  
14<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Robert Wittke  
State Representative  
62<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District