



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

July 20, 2021

Senator Chris Kapenga
President, Wisconsin State Senate
Room 220 South, State Capitol
Madison WI 53707

Dear Sen. Kapenga,

On Friday, April 30, 2021, Governor Tony Evers announced the appointment of Sandra Naas of Ashland to the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board; she would fill the seat of Dr. Frederick Prehn, which was expiring on May 1.

After nearly three months, the nomination of Sandra Naas has yet to be referred to an appropriate Senate committee for a public hearing. Precedent would dictate that Dr. Prehn vacate his now-expired seat on the board and allow Sandra Naas to serve on the Board pending her Senate confirmation; however, he is refusing to do so. This makes the nomination and confirmation hearing even more important.

As the Governor, elected by the people of Wisconsin, Tony Evers has the right and responsibility to appoint citizens of his choosing to fill positions on state departments, boards and commissions. More than two and a half years into his first term, an unprecedented number of the Governor's appointees have not received a committee hearing, let alone a confirmation vote. There is no valid reason that we can see why the appointment of Sandra Naas has not yet been referred to a Senate committee for a public hearing and vote. Our system of government is dependent on citizen engagement; it is disheartening to see a Wisconsin resident step up to serve her state, only to be subjected to partisan gamesmanship.

We ask that you refer the nomination of Sandra Naas as quickly as possible so that she can be given due consideration in committee, receive an up or down vote on the Senate floor and take her rightful position serving the people of Wisconsin on the Natural Resources Board.

Feel free to contact either of our offices for further discussion.

Sincerely,

Sen. Robert Wirch, Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Natural
Resources and Energy

Sen. Melissa Agard, Member
Senate Committee on Natural
Resources and Energy

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