



## PRESS RELEASE

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### WISCONSIN GROCERS ENDORSE JOHN GARD FOR 8<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

*June 2, 2006*— The Wisconsin Grocers Association Board of Directors have voted unanimously to endorse John Gard for the 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District seat vacated by Mark Green.

WGA President Brandon Scholz said, “John Gard has been a Friend of Grocer every session we have presented the coveted industry award. In fact, Representative Gard was one of only a few who received the highest award ever presented by the association—the Gold Cart. Given his solid record of supporting our industry, it was a no-brainer for our board to vote to endorse his candidacy for the 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District.”

“I am very pleased to have the endorsement of the Wisconsin Grocers Association in my bid to represent the 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District,” said Gard. “From small neighborhood grocery stores to larger retail chains, the members of the WGA provide an important service to Wisconsin and generate good jobs. As Congressman, I will work hard to help them keep Northeastern Wisconsin’s economy competitive.”

"If elected to Congress, I'm confident that the long-standing friendship I've had with the Grocers will continue," concluded Gard

The Wisconsin Grocers Association presented the membership with biographical information on every candidate running in the 8<sup>th</sup> congressional district. Members were given a ballot and were asked to indicate whether the Association should endorse the Republican or the Democrat in the general election and were also asked to indicate their primary candidate. Their responses were provided to WGA members, along with a ballot intended to assist the WGA Board of Directors in determining which candidate to endorse. The response from the membership indicated that 93% recommended endorsing the Republican in the general election and a majority supported John Gard as their primary candidate.

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**The Wisconsin Grocers Association represents more than 1,000 independent grocers, retail grocery chain stores, warehouses and distributors, convenience stores, food brokers and suppliers who employ over 66,000 people and generate more than \$6 billion in annual sales in Wisconsin.**