

Sen. Baldwin: Secures funding for Wisconsin's Great Lakes

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WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Senate Appropriations Committee today released the Fiscal Year 2018 Interior and Environment funding bill, which includes \$300 million for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) that Senator Baldwin secured as a member of the committee.

“The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative is critical for the health of our region, our communities, and our clean water resources. It helps us clean up polluted sites, restore water quality and combat invasive species,” said Senator Baldwin. “Preserving the Great Lakes is not just an environmental goal - it is an economic necessity, and I’m glad to see the Senate Appropriations Committee has taken this positive step to fully fund this important initiative.”

Last month, Senator Baldwin joined a bipartisan group of her Senate colleagues calling on the Office of Management and Budget to include this critical funding in the legislation. A copy of the October letter is available [here](#).

In May, Senator Baldwin championed a bipartisan agreement to fully fund the GLRI in omnibus funding legislation. The GLRI is a critical program for the Great Lakes region that helps protect our clean water resources. President Trump proposed eliminating federal funding for this program, suggesting that instead we could rely on the State of Wisconsin and local governments to provide this critical funding. Senator Baldwin has championed the GLRI and protecting our Great Lakes throughout her time in the Senate. Last year, Senator Baldwin successfully fought to reauthorize the GLRI for five more years in bipartisan legislation signed into law by

President Obama.

The text of the Draft FY2018 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill is available [here](#).

An online version of this release is available [here](#).