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Rep. Hesselbein: Statement on election year gimmicks and giveaways

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MADISON – Today on the floor of the Wisconsin State Assembly, Assembly Republicans pushed forward harmful legislation which will hurt our state's proud natural resources and sporting heritage and place onerous restrictions on Wisconsinites in need of assistance.

Assembly Bill 547 passed on a party-line vote and will remove protection for hundreds of thousands of acres of wetlands across Wisconsin. Very few wetlands in the southern two-thirds of the state will remain protected under the legislation passed by Assembly Republicans.

"Assembly Republicans are shamefully jeopardizing Wisconsin's proud natural resources and sporting heritage by putting our wetlands up for grabs to big developers and campaign donors," said Wisconsin State Representative and Assistant Democratic Leader Dianne Hesselbein (D – Middleton). "Healthy wetlands are vital to preserving our environment, and we absolutely must be doing more to protect and promote what our state has to offer in recreation, tourism, and clean water."

Further, Assembly Republicans passed a costly package of special session bills called for by Governor Walker. These bills place more government restrictions on

people and families working to get by. The slate of bills passed on party-line votes will add roadblocks to accessing services that low-income families and other vulnerable populations rely on every day.

“Governor Walker and legislative Republicans are in the fight of their life, and they’re clearly taking a play out of their ‘divide and conquer’ playbook with this shameful campaign gimmick to fire up their political base,” said Rep. Hesselbein. “Instead of kicking people while they are down, we should be lifting them up with legislation that promotes affordable child care, access to healthcare, higher paychecks, and increased access to the workforce.”