

WCA, WTA: Statement on large livestock legislation

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Over the last several months, under the leadership of Senator Marklein, Representative Tauchen, and Representative Tranel, the Wisconsin Towns Association (WTA) and Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) collaborated with the Wisconsin Farm Bureau, Dairy Business Association, Wisconsin Pork Producers, and Wisconsin Dairy Alliance to craft livestock siting legislation that would have produced a series of win-win outcomes for local government, agriculture, and the environment.

Unfortunately, yesterday it became clear this legislation would not be moving to the Governor's desk.

The bill would have maintained local control and also resulted in more efficient and effective use of the state's livestock siting rules and local planning and zoning. We are disappointed that some associations failed to recognize the substantial benefits to both local government and agriculture, thus resulting in the bill not advancing.

We commend Senator Marklein and the leadership the bill authors provided in developing this reasonable compromise and appreciate their commitment to maintaining local zoning and regulatory authority.