

# Rep. Shankland: Statement on State of the Tribes Address and Assembly Action

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MADISON- Rep. Katrina Shankland (D-Stevens Point) released the following statement following the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Wisconsin State of the Tribes address and subsequent session of the Wisconsin State Assembly:

“Today, President John Johnson Sr. of the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians delivered the annual Wisconsin State of the Tribes address, an honored tradition that strengthens the relationship between our state government and the eleven sovereign tribal nations in Wisconsin. In it, he outlined a range of forward-looking policies and issues that we can work on together to ensure that our shared future is an equitable and secure one.

“When we really listen to one another and work together, we are able to make more informed decisions to strengthen our communities and state. I appreciated his comments and leadership immensely.”

“I wish I could say that our work in the Legislature lately has been reflective of that positive, collaborative vision. Instead, we’ve seen more and more bills and resolutions brought forward recently that are solutions in search of a problem and which deliberately sow division and partisanship. For example, today lawmakers spent more time today on legislation that undermines our election administration and a bill to require the national anthem be played at sporting events than they did on legislation to support our economic recovery from the pandemic. Wouldn’t our energy be better spent building consensus and making progress on any of the

countless policies that could meaningfully improve the lives of the people of Wisconsin?”