

Dairy Business Association: Dairy Business Association endorses Michels for governor, Toney for AG

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MADISON, Wis. — The Dairy Business Association, Wisconsin's leading dairy advocacy group, today endorsed Tim Michels for governor, Eric Toney for attorney general and numerous candidates for the Legislature in the November election.

Key to the association's support for Michels is his business sense, regulatory perspective and openness to hearing from dairy farmers, DBA President Amy Penterman said.



"Tim Michels is a businessman who understands that dairy farming is a business and that growth for this industry is vital to the economic well-being of our state," Penterman said. "Farmers underpin a \$45 billion portion of Wisconsin's economy. Our farms need to flourish if we are to protect that.

"Michels also knows the importance of regulatory certainty to farmers' ability to plan and grow," she said. "And he realizes how impractical regulations can stifle innovation. Environmental sustainability is a prime example. With flexibility to integrate new technologies, our farmers could accelerate their progress in protecting water quality.

"Michels also is open to welcoming farmers to the table for discussions about issues that affect dairy," Penterman said. "Maintaining open and honest communication with the agricultural community will bring better opportunities, more effective solutions to challenges and a brighter future for Wisconsin."

The association also announced its endorsement of Eric Toney for attorney general.

“Eric Toney is single-minded in his approach to regulation and following the law. This is welcome, and refreshing, for farmers, many of whom have felt the damaging effects of regulatory overreach,” Penterman said. “DBA is confident Mr. Toney will ensure regulators follow the intent of the Legislature and stay within the scope of statutes when writing and enforcing administrative rules. It is essential that Wisconsin have common-sense regulations that are fairly applied if we are to keep farms from leaving or closing.”

The announcements came after the DBA board of directors finalized its list of endorsements today at World Dairy Expo. The board earlier had heard from members and had meetings with the candidates.

DBA is also endorsing 74 candidates seeking election to the state Legislature.

“The candidates we are supporting have demonstrated dedication to supporting Wisconsin’s dairy farmers,” Penterman said. “They show an understanding of our key issues and a commitment to addressing them.”

Seventeen state Senate seats are up for election this year. DBA has made endorsements in 14 of those races. Listed by district, they are:

- 1ST — Andre Jacque, R-DePere
- 5th — Rob Hutton, R-Brookfield
- 9th — Devin LeMahieu, R-Oostburg
- 11th — Steve Nass, R-Whitewater
- 13th — John Jagler, R-Watertown
- 15th — Mark Spreitzer, D-Beloit
- 17th — Marklein, R-Spring Green
- 19th — Rachel Cabral-Guevara, R-Appleton
- 23rd — Jesse James, R-Altoona
- 25th — Romaine Quinn, R-Rice Lake
- 27th — Dianne Hesselbein, D-Middleton
- 29th — Cory Tomczyk, R-Mosinee
- 31st — Jeff Smith, D-Brunswick
- 33rd — Chris Kapenga, R-Delafield

All 99 seats in the Assembly are up for election. DBA is making endorsements of

candidates in a wide range of races, grouped here by region of the state:

Northeast

- 1st — Joel Kitchens, R-Sturgeon Bay
- 2nd — Shae Sortwell, R-Two Rivers
- 3rd — Ron Tusler, R-Harrison
- 4th — Dave Steffen, R-Green Bay
- 5th — Joy Goeben, R-Hobart
- 25th — Paul Tittl, R-Manitowoc
- 26th — Terry Katsma, R-Oostburg
- 27th — Amy Binsfield, R-Sheboygan
- 40th — Kevin Peterson, R-Waupaca
- 52nd — Jerry O'Connor, R-Fond du Lac
- 55th — Nate Gustafson, R-Neenah
- 56th — Dave Murphy, R-Greenville
- 88th — John Macco, R-Ledgeview
- 89th — Elijah Behnke, R-Oconto

Milwaukee

- 12th — LaKeshia Myers, D-Milwaukee
- 18th — Evan Goyke, D-Milwaukee
- 21st — Jessie Rodriguez, R-Oak Creek

Northwest

- 28th — Gae Magnafici, R-Dresser
- 29th — Clint Moses, R-Menomonie
- 30th — Shannon Zimmerman, R-River Falls
- 67th — Rob Summerfield, R-Bloomer
- 68th — Karen Hurd, R-Fall Creek
- 69th — Dana Rozar, R-Marshfield
- 75th — David Armstrong, R-Rice Lake
- 92nd — Treig Pronschinske R-Mondovi
- 93rd — Warren Petryk, R-Town of Washington

North-central

34th — Rob Swearingen, R-Rhineland
35th — Calvin Callahan, R-Tomahawk
36th — Jeff Mursau, R-Crivitz
70th — Nancy VanderMeer, R-Tomah
71st — Katrina Shankland, D-Stevens Point
72nd — Scott Krug, R-Nekoosa
85th — Pat Snyder, R-Schofield
86th — John Spiros, R-Marshfield
87th — James Edming, R-Glen Flora

South-central

31st — Ellen Schutt, R-Clinton
33rd — Don Vruwink, D-Milton
37th — William Penterman, R-Columbus
38th — Barb Dittrich, R-Oconomowoc
39th — Mark Born, R-Beaver Dam
41st — Alex Dallman, R-Green Lake
42nd — Jon Plumer, R-Lodi
43rd — Jenna Jacobson, D-Oregon
45th — Clinton Anderson, D-Beloit
46th — Melissa Ratcliff, D-Cottage Grove
79th — Alex Joers, D-Middleton
81st — Dave Considine, D-Baraboo

Southwest

49th — Travis Tranel, R-Cuba City
50th — Tony Kurtz, R-Wonewoc
51st — Todd Novak, R-Dodgeville
80th — Mike Bare, D-Verona
94th — Steve Doyle, D-Onalaska
96th — Loren Oldenburg, R-Viroqua

Southeast

32nd — Tyler August, R-Lake Geneva
59th — Ty Bodden, R-Hilbert

60th — Rob Brooks, R-Saukville
61st — Amanda Nedweski, R-Pleasant Prairie
63rd — Robin Vos, R-Rochester
66th — Greta Neubauer, D-Racine
83rd — Chuck Wichgers, R-Muskego

Images:

[DBA endorsement logo](#)

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Dairy Business Association @DairyForward announces endorsement of Tim Michels for governor, Eric Toney for AG, legislative candidates

About DBA:

The Dairy Business Association is Wisconsin's leading dairy lobby group, championing smart and sensible regulations affecting the dairy community. The nonprofit organization is comprised of farmers, milk processors, vendors and other business partners who work collaboratively to ensure that dairy farms of all sizes have the support they need to keep America's Dairyland strong. More information: www.dairyforward.com.