

# 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:

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

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

## Milwaukee

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

## Northwest

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

## North-central

- 34<sup>th</sup> — Rob Swearingen, R-Rhineland

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

#### South-central

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

#### Southwest

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

#### Southeast

32<sup>nd</sup> — Tyler August, R-Lake Geneva  
59<sup>th</sup> — Ty Bodden, R-Hilbert  
60<sup>th</sup> — Rob Brooks, R-Saukville

61<sup>st</sup> — Amanda Nedweski, R-Pleasant Prairie

63<sup>rd</sup> — Robin Vos, R-Rochester

66<sup>th</sup> — Greta Neubauer, D-Racine

83<sup>rd</sup> — Chuck Wichgers, R-Muskego

### **Images:**

[DBA endorsement logo](#)

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### **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](http://www.dairyforward.com).