

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact: Jamie Mara  
920 209-3990 | [jmara@dairyforward.com](mailto:jmara@dairyforward.com)



## **Dairy Business Association endorses state candidates in northcentral Wisconsin**

GREEN BAY, Wis. — The Dairy Business Association, Wisconsin’s leading dairy lobbying group, is endorsing candidates in several legislative races in northcentral Wisconsin.

DBA based its endorsement decisions on candidates’ positions on agricultural issues and, where available, their past voting records on bills supported by the association, which advocates for the state’s dairy farmers and allied businesses.

DBA is endorsing Rep. Mary Felzkowski, R-Irma, in her race to fill the 12<sup>th</sup> Senate District seat vacated by now Congressman Tom Tiffany. In the 24<sup>th</sup> Senate District, the association is supporting Sen. Patrick Testin, R-Stevens Point, for reelection. DBA also is endorsing Rep. Joan Ballweg, R-Markesan, as she runs to replace retiring Sen. Luther Olsen, R-Ripon, in the 14<sup>th</sup> Senate District.



“Joan Ballweg has been a true friend to the state’s farmers,” said Tom Crave, DBA president and a dairy farmer. “Her and her husband own a farm implement dealership and they understand many of the challenges we face in agriculture firsthand. That is rare in the state Legislature these days. She’ll be a welcome addition to the state Senate.”

In addition to those Senate races, DBA is endorsing 10 candidates from northcentral Wisconsin in Assembly contests: Rep. Rob Swearingen, R-Rhineland, in the 34<sup>th</sup> District; Rep. Jeff Mursau, R-Crivitz, in the 36<sup>th</sup> District; Nate Zimdars, D-Ripon, in the 41<sup>st</sup> District; Rep. Jon Plumer, R-Lodi, in the 42<sup>nd</sup> District; Rep. Nancy VanderMeer, R-Tomah, in the 70<sup>th</sup> District; Rep. Katrina Shankland, D-Stevens Point, in the 71<sup>st</sup> District; Rep. Scott Krug, R-Nekoosa, in the 72<sup>nd</sup> District; Rep. Pat Snyder, R-Schofield, in the 85<sup>th</sup> District; Rep. John Spiros, R-Marshfield, in the 86<sup>th</sup> District; and Rep. James Edming, R-Glen Flora, in the 87<sup>th</sup> District.

This past legislative session, there was a particular focus on water quality, which included hearings across the state held by the Speaker’s Taskforce on Water Quality. Shankland served as vice-chair of that bipartisan group. Together with Testin, Felzkowski, Krug and many more, the taskforce dug into the questions surrounding water quality.

“Farmers are the original stewards of the land. We want to be partners in our state’s efforts to improve water quality and the environment as a whole,” John Holevoet, DBA’s director of government affairs, said.

“We appreciated the leadership of Representative Shankland and her desire to work together with her colleagues and the public to find solutions,” he said. “We anticipate these conversations are only the beginning and we look forward to continuing them next session.”

**Photo:**

[Click here](#) for a photo of Tom Crave

**Logo:**

[Click here](#) for DBA's 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)

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