



Media Release

For Immediate Release
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Rep. Shankland Celebrates Earth Day by Taking Action and Introducing Legislation

MADISON – Today, in celebration of Earth Day 2021, Rep. Katrina Shankland (D-Stevens Point) announced the introduction of five bills to protect our natural resources, promote sustainability and local control, and increase access to and enjoyment of the outdoors.

Rep. Shankland issued the following statement:

“Earth Day is so much more than a proud Wisconsin-born tradition or a day on the calendar that we celebrate each year. It is a mindset. I’m proud of the Stevens Point area community and the way that we embody Earth Day principles year-round. One of my top priorities in the Legislature has always been protecting our natural resources and strengthening sustainability so that our state’s rich and diverse natural heritage can be enjoyed for generations to come. This Earth Day, I’m reaffirming my commitment to these values by taking action and introducing legislation.”

“Whether it’s supporting efforts to control invasive species like wild parsnip, waiving fishing license fees for children with disabilities, eliminating the use of polystyrene containers for fast food, or empowering local governments to make the choices that are right for them regarding lawn pesticides and plastic bags, these proposals are steps we can take to make a difference right now that will resound for years to come with healthier wildlife, cleaner water, and enhanced access to sporting opportunities. I was also pleased to introduce the 2021 CLEAR Act with my colleagues earlier this week to help tackle the ever-increasing threat posed by PFAS in our state, and I continue to be an avid advocate for meaningful solutions to our state’s many water quality challenges.”

“I look forward to continuing to advocate for these and other Earth-friendly initiatives throughout this legislative session, and I call on every single one of my colleagues to join me. Happy Earth Day!”

The legislation introduced by Rep. Shankland today includes:

- **LRB 0738:** Bipartisan legislation to assist the Bureau of Natural Heritage Conservation with their efforts to control invasive species and to provide grants for the mapping, control, eradication, monitoring, and mitigation of the spread of wild parsnip.
- **LRB 0725:** Legislation to restore the ability of local governments to enact ordinances related to auxiliary containers, including plastic bags.
- **LRB 2727:** Legislation prohibiting food and beverages from being served in foam polystyrene packaging.
- **LRB 2733:** Legislation to allow local governments to regulate application of pesticides on private lawns.
- **LRB 2738:** Bipartisan legislation to waive Wisconsin fishing license fees for children with disabilities.

Rep. Katrina Shankland also joined her legislative colleagues earlier this week in introducing **LRB 2927, the 2021 CLEAR Act** (Chemical Level Enforcement and Remediation Act), which aims to prevent contamination from perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substance (PFAS) particles through mitigation, testing, and strict enforcement standards. The CLEAR Act is the most comprehensive PFAS legislation in the nation.

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NOTE: Copies of the bills mentioned above can be provided upon request