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## **Rep. Krug Celebrates Signing of Septic Assistance Bill**

### *Signed bill continues state assistance with certain septic replacements*

**MADISON** – Rep. Scott Krug (R-Rome) today celebrated the signing into law of his proposal to extend the State’s grant program for upgrades and replacements of Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (POWTS). The program had expired on June 30, 2021 but Rep. Krug and Sen. Andre Jacques (R-De Pere) authored legislation to extend the program to June 30, 2023.

The legislation was introduced as 2021 Assembly Bill 123 and 2021 Senate Bill 84. (Krug and Jacques had also introduced the proposal in the previous legislative session.) Now signed into law as [2021 Act 67](#), the measure will:

- Extend the sunset date for the private on-site wastewater treatment system (POWTS) grant program from June 30, 2021 to June 30, 2023;
- Require the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Service (DSPS) to prepare and provide residential POWTS eligibility literature and fund a study recommending ways to mitigate ground and surface water contamination risk from septage; and
- Provide two full-time program revenue project positions to assist with permit processing, review of POWTS programs in governmental units responsible for regulating such systems, and training and informational programs.

The POWTS program is administered as the “Wisconsin Fund program.” The program provides grants to homeowners and owners of small businesses that need to replace a failing private onsite wastewater treatment system with a new system. (A farm of 35 acres or more may also be considered a small business; there are income limits and other requirements for those seeking a grant. <https://dsps.wi.gov/Pages/Programs/WisconsinFund/Default.aspx>)

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“The POWTS grant program is very popular and much needed, especially in my area of the state where use of POWTS (private septic systems) is widespread,” Rep. Krug noted. “Support for extending the grant program was clearly shown in the testimony on the bills and in the unanimous votes of support for the bills in the Assembly and the Senate committees.”

“This is something people need,” Rep. Krug went to say. “This goes way beyond a benefit to homeowners and small-business owners. Septic systems treat the water we all rely on. Continuing the POWTS grants is a basic part of our state’s commitment to clean water for all of our state – something I have been working on for years.”

Rep. Krug notes that information about the POWTS program (including a fact sheet and the necessary application forms) is available from the Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services at <https://dsps.wi.gov/Pages/Programs/WisconsinFund/Default.aspx>

Krug traced the bill itself to the Assembly Speaker’s Task Force on Clean Water, which Assembly Speaker Robin Vos convened in 2019. “The task force resulted directly in this bill being written,” Rep. Krug said, “and the Speaker’s support for this bill and for clean water in general has been a blessing. I thank Speaker Vos once again for appointing me to the task force.”

“It’s a great day for Wisconsin,” concluded Rep. Krug, “and I thank Sen. Jacques for his support of this bill. I also extend my thanks to the Governor for his signature.”

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