

Barbara Dittrich
Wisconsin State Assembly
May 18, 2021

Dear Assembly Member Barbara Dittrich,

The Rock Lake Improvement Association represents over 150 households in Lake Mills. Our mission is to promote and generate positive issues concerning the preservation, protection, and improvement of Rock Lake.

We appreciate the unanimous, bipartisan support from you and all your Wisconsin Assembly colleagues for the 2019, AB 795 Agriculture Bill. While this bill did not get a vote in the State Senate last year, we understand there remains strong bipartisan support for the key provisions of this bill within the Wisconsin State Legislature.

The Rock Lake Improvement Association asks for your continued support of this year's draft of this bill. In particular, we ask for your support of the provisions for:

- Cover Crop Rebates
- Producer-Led Watershed Protection Grants
- Lake Protection Grants

Cover crop insurance rebates for farmers who plant cover crops can help offset the additional costs Jefferson County farmers incur for adopting this healthy soils practice. Cover crops prevent soil from being depleted of nutrient while keeping excess nutrients from our waterways. Cover crops also reduce flooding which saves taxpayers millions of dollars annually in storm-damage repair of our roadways and bridges.

Producer-Led Watershed groups are a Wisconsin success story. These groups now play a leading role in promoting sustainable agriculture practices from which everyone benefits – farmers, fishermen, and boaters. We welcome legislation that supports these innovative agriculture associations.

Sincerely,

The Rock Lake Improvement Association
John Crump
Susan Trier
Jim Colegrove
Mike Nesemann
Ralph DePasquale
Nathan Pyles
Stan Smoniewski
John Thode
Bruce Ward