

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Representative Fred Clark**

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**Rep. Fred Clark Fights to Preserve  
Wisconsin's Outdoor and Environmental Heritage**

*Bills Pass Enabling More Access to Hunting and Sound Environment Management*

MADISON – Representative Fred Clark (D-Baraboo) voted for several bills Thursday that will enable more access to hunting in Wisconsin and will reauthorize a successful program protecting the environment.

One of the bills passed Thursday was Senate Bill 126, the reauthorization of the Green Tier Program. SB 126 was a bi-partisan effort authored by Representatives Clark and Gary Tauchen (R-Bonduel), and Senators Mark Miller (D-Monona) and Neal Kedzie (R-Elkhorn). After five years in affect, this program proved to be a successful collaboration between businesses and the DNR in encouraging prompt environmental improvements throughout the state. “The Green Tier program helps us move government beyond top-down regulation to a much more cooperative relationship with business and industry,” said Clark. “The incentives in Green Tier are very effective at helping companies achieve better business and better environmental performance.” Rep. Tauchen added “The bill allows for streamlined interaction between the DNR and the forward thinking green private businesses across Wisconsin.”

Along with protecting Wisconsin's treasured environment, Rep. Clark also co-sponsored a bill to expand access to the timeless tradition of hunting in our state. SB 167 allows people at least ten years old to hunt under the mentorship program. These kids would be allowed to go hunting with a parent or guardian, 18 years or older, as long as they have only one firearm or crossbow between them and stay within arm's reach. “This bill helps strengthen our Wisconsin hunting heritage,” said Clark. “We know that when we can educate children about the safe and appropriate uses of firearms, we help make them more responsible citizens.”

Rep. Clark also voted for SB 112, which modernizes current statutes that regulate trapping and the possession of trapped fur by removing the century-old prohibition on possession of a green fur five days after the start of the closed season. An animal must be lawfully killed and registered for as long as it is a species that has no bag or possession limits. The bill also allows the sale of such green fur.

Each of these bills now head to the desk of Governor Jim Doyle where they are expected to be signed into law later this summer.

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