

**Wetlands Resolution**  
**2001 Conservation Congress Spring Hearings**

**WHEREAS**, on January 9th, 2001, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the Army Corps of Engineers does not have permitting authority over wetlands not connected to navigable waters ("isolated" wetlands), thereby leaving an estimated 30%, or 1 1/2 million acres, of Wisconsin's wetlands unprotected from development, and

**WHEREAS**, these isolated wetlands can be vitally important as critical habitat for a wide range of plants and animals, including waterfowl, game and song birds, numerous mammals, frogs, turtles, and invertebrates;

**WHEREAS**, wetlands serve many other useful functions such as groundwater recharge, water purification, sediment trapping, and provide other important environmental services;

**WHEREAS**, it is the assigned duty of the Wisconsin State Legislature, under the Public Trust Doctrine, to act as trustee of the public's interest in the water resources of the State, therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Conservation Congress, at its annual meeting held in \_\_\_\_\_ County on April 9th, 2001, strongly urges the State of Wisconsin to immediately protect our state's vulnerable isolated wetlands by adopting legislation assigning permitting authority for these wetlands to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

County Vote: (by show of hands)      YES \_\_\_\_\_      NO \_\_\_\_\_