

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN



CITATION OF COMMENDATION

KNOW YOU BY THESE PRESENTS:

WHEREAS, Gordon Bubolz was a conservative businessman, a politician, and a dedicated conservationist and volunteer who developed a love of nature at a young age and devoted his life to protecting and preserving Wisconsin's cherished waters and lands; and

WHEREAS, Gordon's father founded The Farmers Home Mutual Hail, Tornado, and Cyclone Insurance Company of Seymour, Wisconsin (now known as SECURA) in 1900, and Gordon succeeded his father as Chief Executive of the company after many years as operations head; and

WHEREAS, Gordon was a graduate of Lawrence University and the University of Wisconsin Law School, and he studied business and insurance at various other institutions, also serving as a Republican state senator from 1945-1953, championing the creation of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), water and air pollution control regulations, and other environmental policies while battling for welfare reform and limited spending in the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, in the Legislature, he served on the state Conservation Commission, chaired the advisory council of the Department of Resource Development, served on the Legislature's Joint Water Resource Committee, coauthored legislation to implement provisions of the federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1948 in Wisconsin, chaired what is now known as the East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, and was an outspoken advocate for regulating industrial pollution of the Fox River; and

WHEREAS, in 1974, Gordon established and led National Areas Preservation Inc., a nonprofit dedicated to identifying and preserving natural areas of ecological significance and educating the public on the vitality of conservation, and a 1990 Senate Joint Resolution credits him as a key fundraiser and organizer in the acquisition of four nature centers, three wildlife areas, two county parks and High Cliff State Park—collectively, about 4,600 acres, with one of those four nature centers later being named the Gordon A. Bubolz Nature Preserve; and

WHEREAS, he received Conservationist of the Year honors from the National Wildlife Federation and its Wisconsin affiliate, was selected as Conservation Pioneer by the UW Department of Agriculture, and received a special citation from the Wisconsin Legislature for his achievements, and most recently has been named a 2022 inductee to the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame; now

THEREFORE, the members of the Wisconsin State Legislature, on the motion of Representative Katrina Shankland, do hereby honor Gordon Bubolz for his outstanding service and commitment to conservation.

Katrina Shankland
Representative Katrina Shankland
71st Assembly District

Tuesday, April 19, 2022

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