



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin Invites UA Local 400 Plumber as Her Guest to State of the Union Address

Kaukauna, WI (March 1, 2022) — U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin has announced that Randy Lorge, a member of UA Local 400 Pipe Trades, will be her “virtual” guest to President Biden’s State of the Union Address on Tuesday, March 1, 2022. Randy is a native of Wisconsin, lifelong member of UA Local 400, and third generation plumber with more than 30 years of experience. As the Director of Workforce Training and Development at the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO), Randy has trained hundreds of apprentice plumbers throughout Wisconsin and through IAPMO’s philanthropic efforts, he works to bring clean water to underserved and disadvantaged communities.

Senator Baldwin voted for bipartisan infrastructure legislation that President Biden signed into law in November. The bipartisan legislation will create good paying jobs and put Wisconsin to work fixing our roads and bridges, rebuilding our water infrastructure, and expanding access to affordable and reliable high-speed broadband for Wisconsin families, students, small businesses, and farmers. It also makes a major federal investment to help local communities replace dangerous lead service lines and address PFAS chemicals so that we provide safe and clean drinking water to people across our state. Wisconsin has more than 170,000 dangerous lead services lines that need to be replaced. This year alone, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will invest \$142.7 million in Wisconsin for drinking water and clean water infrastructure, with nearly \$50 million of the resources going to replace dangerous lead pipes. Senator Baldwin also worked across party lines to include stronger Buy America standards in the bipartisan infrastructure legislation.

“President Biden and Senator Baldwin worked to deliver results for Wisconsin, creating good paying union jobs across the state rebuilding our infrastructure, including our water infrastructure,” said Lorge. “I’m



honored that Senator Baldwin has selected me as a way to highlight the hardworking men and women across Wisconsin who are fueling America's recovery. I am also grateful for her leadership in the Senate on Buy America reforms and working for more federal investments in our technical schools, worker training, apprenticeships, and workforce readiness programs."

"The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will create good paying, family supporting jobs and put Wisconsin to work rebuilding our infrastructure. It will help make sure America is buying what Wisconsin makes, and I am proud to stand on the side of delivering results for our manufacturers and workers," said Senator Baldwin.

"Now, we need more federal investment in apprenticeship programs, community colleges and technical schools so we have a trained workforce for the good jobs we are creating. We are making a major investment to replace dangerous lead pipes so we can provide everyone safe and clean drinking water, now we need to scale up federal support for public-private, workforce development partnerships at the local level so we have more trained and skilled workers like Randy to do it. In a state like Wisconsin with such a strong manufacturing economy, a federal-state partnership to invest in two years of tuition-free community college can both strengthen the workforce for businesses and strengthen the career outcomes for workers."

Members of Congress often invite constituents to join them as guests to such speeches, but with ongoing precautions being taken because of the pandemic, some members of Congress have named virtual guests as an important way to highlight people in their state doing important work to move the country forward.

Trevor Martin, UA Local 400 Business Manager said, "The members of UA Local 400 are honored to have Randy representing them at this year's State of the Union address. Randy's level of drive and dedication to providing clean & safe drinking water to Wisconsin and beyond is a standard we all should strive to achieve."



“This historic bipartisan investment into the country's infrastructure will provide good paying, family supporting union jobs across the country. UA 400 is poised to support its communities in getting to work, repairing, and replacing our critical water supply systems,” said Martin.

“We are thankful for Senator Baldwin's support of this legislation and President Biden's persistence on getting this bill passed. The members of UA 400 encourage ALL our elected leaders to support future legislation that invests in the American worker.”

UA 400 Pipe Trades is proud to offer some of the country's best apprentice training programs for plumbing, steamfitting, HVAC/R and pipe fabrication. Apprentices earn as they learn from experienced instructors and receive hands-on training with the latest technology. The group's membership serves eighteen counties in Northeast Wisconsin including Adams, Brown, Calumet, Dodge, Door, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marinette, Menomonee, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano, Sheboygan, Waupaca, Waushara, and Winnebago.

For more information on training and apprenticeship opportunities visit the [UA Local 400 Career Portal](#).

About UA 400 Pipe Trades

The UA 400 Pipe Trades, headquartered in Kaukauna, Wisconsin with an office in Fond du Lac, is comprised of approximately 2300 members serving eighteen counties in Northeast Wisconsin. The organization is affiliated with the United Association of Plumber and Pipefitters with an estimated 345,000 membership throughout the United States and Canada. The group's mission is to be the preferred choice for industries, employers and workers specializing in plumbing, pipefitting, HVACR service and pipe fabrication as well as training for its members and qualified manpower to their 105 signatory contractors. The UA 400 takes pride in their partnerships and contributions to serve local communities with organizations such as Cerebral Palsy Telethon, Special Olympics, Rebuilding Together, Heat's On Program, Harbor House, and Salvation Army. To keep up with the latest news and to learn more about UA 400, visit <http://www.ua400.org> follow us on Facebook and YouTube.

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