



Paul Jadin, CEO



Scott Walker, Governor



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CONTACT: John Dipko, Department of Workforce Development, 608-266-6753  
David Volz, Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, 608-266-1018

## **Governor Walker's Fiscally Responsible Budget Improves Wisconsin Business Climate, Encourages Job Creation, Moves Wisconsin Forward**

### ***Economic, Workforce Development Secretaries highlight key provisions***

MILWAUKEE – Governor Walker's Cabinet members leading economic development and workforce development efforts said today the fiscally responsible budget he signed puts the state on course for economic growth and job creation, benefiting not only business and industry, but working families and communities throughout the state.

"Wisconsin wins with a budget that fosters economic growth, helps business and industry create jobs and keeps Wisconsin moving forward," Department of Workforce Development Secretary Scott Baumbach said. "With this budget and other measures, Governor Walker is reinforcing the message that Wisconsin is open for business."

At the Greater Milwaukee YWCA Job Center, Secretary Baumbach highlighted budget provisions that serve to strengthen the economy. Mike Klonsinski, Chief Operating Officer of the new Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC), joined Secretary Baumbach at the event in saying Governor Walker's budget keeps Wisconsin in the spotlight, with strategic investments to spur economic growth and job creation.

"Not just Wisconsin employers, but CEOs nationwide are taking notice of Governor Walker's bold action to improve Wisconsin's business climate," said Paul Jadin, former Secretary of the Commerce Department, now Chief Executive Officer of the WEDC public authority formed under the 2011-2013 budget. "Thanks to the Governor and the legislators who supported the budget, the WEDC stands prepared to assist businesses looking to create high quality jobs for Wisconsin workers."

CEO Jadin said the new public authority replacing Commerce is among the significant steps Governor Walker takes in the budget to strengthen Wisconsin's economy. Unlike Commerce, he said, WEDC can now focus exclusively on economic development. Safety and environmental regulations are being transferred to other state agencies, he said, leaving WEDC to concentrate on helping business create jobs and partner with DWD in meeting economic and workforce development needs of business and industry.

Most important, the top aides said, the state budget eliminates a \$3.6 billion deficit, a fiscal burden that amounted to roughly \$600 per resident. At the same time, they said the budget keeps public education as a top priority. Public K-12 schools remain the state's single largest expenditure.

Among other budget items, they noted a manufacturing tax credit and capital gains tax credit aimed at creating jobs, and a one-week waiting period before state Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits are payable, addressing a \$1.26 billion deficit in the state's UI Trust Fund.

Secretary Baumbach also said the biennial budget signed by Governor Walker continues to move Wisconsin in the right direction by cutting government spending and enacting innovative government reforms that sustain the business-friendly environment that was started under his leadership.

"This year, our website, [www.JobCenterofWisconsin.com](http://www.JobCenterofWisconsin.com), has seen unprecedented use, with some 30,000 jobs posted currently," Secretary Baumbach said. "It is clear that employers are gaining confidence thanks to the business-friendly environment being advanced by Governor Walker, and jobseekers are optimistic that they will find that next great job opportunity."