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Secretary Newson promotes Governor Walker's "Wisconsin Working" plan to Milwaukee business owners

Secretary addresses local employers at Riverworks Development Corporation meeting

MILWAUKEE – In remarks to the general membership of the Riverworks Development Corporation today, Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Reggie Newson stated that Governor Walker's "Wisconsin Working" plan will help connect job seekers to jobs in communities such as Milwaukee and support economic growth in the region and state.

"Employers in Milwaukee and other communities throughout Wisconsin have much to gain under Governor Walker's 'Wisconsin Working' plan," Secretary Newson said. "We hear time and again that employers have good jobs available, and they're ready to hire. Under Governor Walker's vision, we are will connect job seekers to available jobs, which will help employers get the skilled workers they need, spur economic growth and support job creation in the long run."

DWD has an integral part in Governor Walker's "Wisconsin Working" plan. The plan directs the department to do the following:

- Double the number of job fairs this year by holding at least 100 community job fairs throughout the state. In addition, DWD will increase efforts to match people on unemployment insurance with jobs employers have to fill. DWD will also join the Department of Veterans Affairs in holding 14 job fairs for veterans this year.
- Expand re-employment services by hiring 14 additional DWD staff to help people receiving unemployment benefits return to work quicker. With the new hires, a total of 37 DWD staff in Job Centers throughout the state will provide re-employment services to help people on unemployment succeed in finding a job.
- Strengthen its partnership with the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) in working with employers expanding operations in Wisconsin. In partnership with WEDC, DWD will work to place UI claimants in available jobs whenever possible.
- Play a leading role on the new College and Workforce Readiness Council to ensure and sustain a skilled workforce in the years ahead. Representing stakeholders and partners, the Council will work to improve student readiness for college and careers through a variety of measures, including designing shorter and less costly degree programs aimed at filling high-need positions.