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Lt. Governor Kleefisch, Key Members of Governor Walker's Leadership Team Meet Oshkosh Area Veterans, Cite Governor's Record, Commitment

OSHKOSH – In a listening session with veterans today, Lt. Governor Rebecca Kleefisch and members of Governor Walker's leadership team cited Governor Walker's work on their behalf and his goal of full employment for veterans, especially those returning home after serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"Governor Walker has served less than half his term, yet he has led the way in providing employment opportunities for veterans," Lt. Governor Kleefisch said. "He offered a Working Wisconsin package to put more Wisconsinites, veterans in particular, to work. Recently, he signed legislation allowing veterans to translate their military training to state licenses and have initial state license fees waived."

Lt. Governor Kleefisch was joined by Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) Secretary John Scocos, Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) Dave Ross, and Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Executive Assistant Georgia Maxwell on behalf of DWD Secretary Reggie Newson.

"As Governor Walker directed in his Wisconsin Working plan, we are doubling efforts to get Wisconsin working again," Secretary Newson said. "At DWD, we will hold twice as many job fairs. Our Office of Veterans Services has helped veterans find jobs throughout the state, working with employers like Oshkosh Truck. We will build on that record of success as the economy steadily improves."

In a listening session with veterans at the new University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Veteran's Resource Center, Lt. Governor Kleefisch and members of Governor Walker's team said the event was as another sign of his commitment to veterans, stated earlier in his declaration of 2012 as The Year of The Veteran.

"Year of the Veteran is our way of reaffirming the State of Wisconsin's commitment to providing the highest level of support, benefits and services to our nation's heroes," Secretary Scocos added. "The best way we can make sure we are successful in this effort is to get out in the state and listen to what veterans have to say and then adjust according to their needs."

Said DSPS Secretary Ross, "The Department of Safety and Professional Services stands alongside Governor Walker, Veterans Affairs and Workforce Development in an effort to better serve the veterans of the state of Wisconsin. Our department is committed to implementing recently passed legislation that will make it easier for veterans to obtain gainful employment in the state. Our door is always open to address any problems that may arise, as we want to ensure that veterans are able to take full advantage of the benefits that recent legislation confers without running into any unnecessary difficulties."

For more information about the agencies and services for veterans, see:

DWD, <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/veterans/>

DVA, <http://dva.state.wi.us/>

DSPS, <http://drl.wi.gov/>