April 13, 2009

Janet Sten, Federal Coordinator
Division of Workforce System Support
Employment and Training Administration
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Room S- 4231
Washington, D.C. 20210

Dear Ms. Sten:

Attached is Wisconsin's Workforce Investment Act (WIA) State Plan Modification for program year 2009 - 2010. This modification to Wisconsin's plan represents a significant effort to improve the workforce system and to improve the skills of our citizens. It incorporates many of the Invest In People strategies contained in my most recent plan for growing Wisconsin's economy, GROW Wisconsin — The Next Steps. Since I introduced my first Grow Wisconsin plan in 2003, followed by a second plan in 2005 and a third in 2008, we have taken major steps to make Wisconsin a great place to do business and raise a family.

Last fall, I charged Wisconsin's Council on Workforce Investment with developing recommendations for my consideration that could improve Wisconsin's workforce system. Earlier this year, I approved this set of recommendations, and have incorporated these, along with the strategies from my GROW Wisconsin plan, into this modification.

The efforts described above, combined with the recently launched Wisconsin Sector Strategy Initiative, represent a substantial shift in policy that warrants this major modification to Wisconsin's WIA Plan.

During the planning process for these initiatives, the passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) occurred. I believe the direction set forth in this modification provides a solid foundation on which to build those ARRA efforts. Therefore, the State of Wisconsin is submitting this State Plan Modification to set the stage for the stand-alone ARRA components required by June 30, 2009.

I look forward to working with the Department of Labor in implementing the WIA and Wagner-Peyser Plan as well as the plan for our state's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act efforts.

Sincerely,

Jim Doyle
Governor