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## **Secretary Gassman: State Will Not Appeal Court Ruling on W-2 Cases**

### **DWD Will Continue Ensuring that W-2 Agencies Get People Employed as Effectively and Efficiently as Possible**

MADISON – Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman released the following statement today regarding the Department’s decision not to appeal a Court of Appeals District I ruling on two cases relating to the state’s Wisconsin Works (W-2) employment program:

“Since 2003, the Doyle Administration has focused Wisconsin’s W-2 employment program for low-income families on connecting participants to skills, training, job placements, career ladders, and retention services.

“In today’s job market, W-2 agencies should be placing into jobs those with skills, education, and a work history. Ensuring that all W-2 agencies meet this challenge remains a top priority for the Department.

“As such, the Department will not appeal the court’s decision and will remain focused on continuing our strong efforts to train people and get them placed into jobs with career pathways and opportunities for economic self-sufficiency. The Department will instruct the state’s W-2 agencies on how to abide by the court’s decision and will make sure they do so. As always, we remain committed to fiscal accountability and getting people employed as effectively and efficiently as possible.”

Last month, the Wisconsin Court of Appeals District I ruled that under Wisconsin statutes, W-2 eligible individuals who are found “ready for employment” but are unemployed should not be placed by Wisconsin’s statewide W-2 agencies into unsubsidized employment.

- 30 -