

Job Creation And Economic Development Legislation And Status

Regulatory Relief:

- SB 246: Provides that permits are automatically issued if state agencies do not meet reasonable review deadlines (presumptive approval). Has passed Senate. Has passed Assembly with amendments. Awaiting further action by Senate.
- AB 267: Reduces regulatory burden on small businesses. Passed Assembly and concurred in by the Senate. Available for signature by the Governor.
- AB 228: “Green Tier.” Authorizes cooperative environmental regulation for businesses with good records. Has passed Senate and Assembly. Available for signing by Governor.
- AB 523: Streamlines the industrial development bond process. Has passed Assembly. Available for scheduling in the state Senate.
- AB 486: Establishes time limits for state agencies to issue permits. Has passed Assembly.
- AB 655 and SB 313 (Job Creation Act of 2003): Adopts comprehensive reforms for Chapter 285 (air permit program), Chapter 30 (water permit program), Chapter 227 (general administrative rulemaking process) and other regulatory processes. Introduced on November 11.

Tax Reform:

- SB 197: Adopts the single sales factor approach for allocating corporate income taxes to keep Wisconsin competitive with neighboring states. Has passed Senate and Assembly and been signed by Governor.
- AB 507: Eliminates sales tax on fuel and electricity used in manufacturing to keep Wisconsin competitive with other states, especially for energy-intensive manufacturing businesses such as paper companies. Has passed Assembly. On Senate calendar for 11/13/03

Capital Investment:

- SB 261: Creates tax incentives to encourage investors to make investments in early-stage growth companies. Has passed Joint Finance Committee. (Companion bill is AB 538.) On Senate calendar for 11/13/03
- AB 520: Allows more small technology businesses to use technology zone tax credits. Has passed Senate and Assembly. Signed into law by Governor.
- AB 531 and SB 249: Expands CAPCO program to encourage more venture capital investment in Wisconsin companies. In committee in the Legislature.

Utility and Transportation Infrastructure:

- SB 300 (AB 632 Assembly Companion): Streamlines regulations for adding electric generation and transmission capacity. Has passed Senate. On Assembly calendar for 11/13/03.
- AB 602: Stabilizes funding sources for the transportation fund. Has passed Senate and Assembly and been signed by Governor.

Workforce Training and Development:

- AB 626: Creates an income tax credit for training apprentices. Has passed Joint Finance Committee. Passed Assembly.

Local Development Efforts:

- AB 653, AB 654, SB 305 and SB 306: Expands the availability of tax incremental finance (TIF) districts for economic development and revitalization projects, including affordable housing and environmental remediation projects. Senate versions on calendar for 11/13/03.