

# Sen. Wanggaard and Rep. Kerkman: HARIBO building first North American plant in Pleasant Prairie

Posted on Thursday, Mar 23, 2017

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Contact:

Sen. Wanggaard- (608) 266-1832

Rep. Kerkman- (608) 266-2530

MADISON – Senator Van Wanggaard (R-Racine) and Representative Samantha Kerkman (R-Salem) joined Governor Scott Walker, County Executive Jim Kreuser, and Pleasant Prairie Village President John Steinbrink to announce German Candy Manufacturer HARIBO will be opening its First North American Factory in Pleasant Prairie, Wisconsin.

“This announcement means over 400 high-paying jobs coming to our area, and shows that our strong economic environment is paying off,” said Senator Van Wanggaard (R-Racine). “I am proud to welcome HARIBO to southeastern Wisconsin, and look forward to this illustrious company adding to our already thriving community.”

The project, which will be completed in 2020, will be HARIBO’s first North American production facility and one of the largest investments of new operations by an overseas company in Wisconsin history. When completed, the facility will be one of the largest in the confectionary industry.

“I am excited that HARIBO has chosen to invest in Kenosha County,” said Representative

Samantha Kerkman (R-Salem). “The economic growth we’ve been experiencing here and around the state has helped us realize the lowest unemployment rate since I was elected in 2000.”

The announcement comes on the same day that the Wisconsin Department of Workforce

Development released data showing Wisconsin’s unemployment rate continuing to decline. The unemployment rate, which is now 3.7%, is the lowest since November 2000.

In the past 3 years, we’ve added 8,000 new jobs to Kenosha County and a billion dollars in new economic development.