



DEVIN LEMAHIEU

STATE SENATOR

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LeMahieu Applauds Signing of REINS Act *Legislation will help protect taxpayers from costly bureaucratic regulations*

Wausau – Today, Governor Scott Walker signed the “REINS Act” (*Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny*) into law at the Wausau Region Chamber of Commerce. The federal REINS Act would require congressional approval of any federal regulation costing more than \$100 million. Wisconsin is the first to pass a state version of the law. Act 57 was authored by Senator Devin LeMahieu (R-Oostburg) and Representative Adam Neylon (R-Pewaukee). In response, Senator LeMahieu issued the following statement:

“This is an exciting day for Wisconsin taxpayers and businesses. Previous law had no cap on the compliance costs for state agency rules. This means bureaucratic regulations costing taxpayers tens of millions of dollars were able to take effect without a vote by state elected officials.

“The REINS Act levels the playing field for Wisconsin citizens. Under the law, any bureaucratic regulation costing taxpayers or businesses more than \$10 million in compliance costs must receive a vote by both houses of the Legislature before enactment.

“Act 57 also gives the Legislature new powers to scrutinize and even block misguided regulations. It allows Legislators to require an independent economic impact analysis of any proposed rule instead of simply relying on an agency estimate. The REINS Act further allows the Legislature to permanently block an administrative rule from going into effect.

“We would not be here today without Governor Walker. He worked with Rep. Neylon and me to make a good bill even better. To be clear, this bill restores the power of the Legislature by reducing the powers of the administration. However, Governor Walker recognizes the long-term gains of these important reforms and has shown true leadership on the REINS Act.

“It’s time for us as elected officials to quit abdicating our responsibilities to unelected bureaucrats. The REINS Act gives us the tools and the responsibility to do that.”

Senator Devin LeMahieu serves the 9th Senate District, which includes portions of Calumet, Manitowoc, and Sheboygan Counties.

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