



President Trump's Jobs Plan for Wisconsin: All Job Creation is Local



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Introduction

The Obama administration raised taxes, increased regulations, suppressed development of America's natural resources, slashed the defense budget, and failed to crack down on unfair trade practices by countries ranging from Canada to Communist China. The Trump administration has pursued just the opposite policies while following an "all job creation is local" approach to stimulating economic growth. Let's see how this strategy is working in the Great State of Wisconsin.

Defense Spending and Foreign Military Sales

President Trump's dramatic increase in defense spending has been a boon to Wisconsin. Spending is up in the state a full 98 percent in Fiscal Years 2018 and 2019 compared to the last two fiscal years of the Obama administration.¹

President Trump's "all job creation is local" strategy was on full display in June when he visited the Fincantieri shipyard in Marinette. The Department of Defense awarded Marinette a \$5.5 billion contract² for one of the newest classes of U.S. Navy ships — the next-generation frigate³ known as the FFG(X) — creating at least 1,000 direct jobs for the yard.⁴

President Trump Tours the Fincantieri Shipyard in Marinette



Marinette will design and build the first 10 ships of a class that will be in construction through the 2030s, creating as many as 6,000 jobs in the supply chain from Ashland to Janesville and throughout the Midwest.⁵

Go 100 miles south and you'll find yourself at Oshkosh Defense's Joint Light Tactical Vehicle (JLTV) plant. The JLTV offers a superior alternative to the Humvee warhorse with increased speed and payload capacity.⁶

The JLTV will be a jobs gift that keeps on giving over the next decade and beyond. By 2029, our Marine Corps will field more than 9,000 of these combat vehicles and the Army will procure an additional 49,000⁷ for a total defense expenditure of \$6.1 billion.⁸ And due to President Trump's new Conventional Arms Transfer policy, our friends and allies, such as Belgium, are rushing to purchase hundreds of these vehicles.⁹

An Oshkosh Joint Light Tactical Vehicle



Source: Oshkosh Defense¹⁰

The much bigger picture here is that of an administration committed to rebuilding and strengthening America's manufacturing and defense industrial base. This commitment is evident in Oshkosh and across Wisconsin, but also in the Midwest manufacturing states as a whole. From the Littoral Combat Ships now rolling off the production line¹¹ in Marinette to the half a billion in defense payroll every year, President Trump is making life better for the Badger State.

Trump Trade Policy and Tariffs

On the Trump fair trade front, there is good news for sectors ranging from dairy, cranberry, and ginseng farmers to paper and auto manufacturers.

President Trump promptly renegotiated NAFTA — one of the worst trade deals in American history. Wisconsin alone suffered an exodus of over 83,000 trade-related job losses since NAFTA's implementation in 1993.¹²

Wisconsin is the dairy capital of the country, accounting for nearly a quarter of dairy farms nationwide and over a quarter of national cheese production.¹³ The industry creates 154,000 jobs and generates \$45.6 billion each year — more than the combined value of Florida citrus and Idaho potatoes.¹⁴

Under the new U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), Canada has greatly expanded its market access for American dairy farmers and eliminated an unfair pricing system that disadvantages American dairy exports.

Under USMCA, Wisconsin's dairy farmers in communities from Eau Claire and Wausau to Green Bay and Platteville should be able to sell more to Canadian markets than they ever have before.¹⁵ U.S. dairy exports to Canada could increase by \$250 million per year, which will be a boon to Wisconsin farmers.¹⁶

President Trump Celebrates USMCA with American Workers



Wisconsin also ranks first in the Nation for papermaking. Over 55,000 Wisconsinites work in 239 manufacturing facilities,¹⁷ from Outagamie, Winnebago, and Brown counties in the east to Wood, Marathon, and Lincoln counties in the heart of the state.¹⁸ Nearly \$750 million worth of paper products are exported to Mexico and Canada annually. Fairer markets under USMCA should serve to bolster Wisconsin papermaking all the more.¹⁹

If leading two national industries weren't enough, Wisconsin is also the number one producer of cranberries,²⁰ accounting for 60 percent of America's crop.²¹ More than 250 growers in 20 counties generate \$1 billion in state economic impact and provide about 4,000 Wisconsin jobs.²²

Another America-first, Wisconsin-friendly Trump trade deal came in September 2018 with South Korea, known as KORUS. Over the past decade, exports of cranberries to South Korea had increased by over 300 percent.²³ KORUS removed a 13.5 percent tariff on U.S. cranberries²⁴ to the benefit of counties like Jackson, Monroe, Juneau, and Wood.²⁵

As yet another national leader, ginseng farmers in Wisconsin account for 95 percent of total U.S. production.²⁶ Along with the state's cranberry farmers, they were negatively impacted by unjustified Chinese retaliatory tariffs on U.S. agricultural goods.

In response, President Trump's Department of Agriculture announced a \$16 billion program to provide relief for farmers nationwide, buoying critical Wisconsin industries from foreign predation. Both ginseng and cranberry growers were granted relief.

Vice President Pence Meets with Wisconsin Manufacturing Employees



Wisconsin has the highest concentration of manufacturing jobs in the Nation.²⁷ In 2018, over 9,000 manufacturers employed nearly 475,000 Wisconsinites — one in five workers.²⁸ That same year, Wisconsin manufacturing produced over \$63 billion in total output — an astonishing 19 percent of state GDP.²⁹

A large share of this impressive output comes from Wisconsin's nearly 110,000 workers in auto manufacturing – 3 percent of the state workforce. USMCA dramatically increases the North American content required for autos and auto parts, and much of this production will be Made in Wisconsin because tough labor and environmental provisions help level the playing field between the U.S. and Mexico. This means more good-paying jobs from Hudson and Menomonie to Brookfield, Milwaukee, and Pleasant Prairie.³⁰

Trump Deregulation

No group has benefited more from President Trump's efforts to eliminate unnecessary regulations than Wisconsin's petroleum industry, which supports nearly 20,000 jobs.³¹ Wisconsin happens to be the country's leading producer of frac sand, a critical element in the hydraulic fracking process.³² It is home to 128 frac sand facilities mostly concentrated in Western Wisconsin,³³ in communities like New Auburn and Arcadia to Marshfield and Tomah.³⁴

In his first year in office, President Trump strengthened the hydraulic fracking industry through five pro-oil related actions and deregulations.³⁵ Under President Trump's watch, a cumbersome Obama administration rule that restricted fracking was rescinded on December 29th, 2017.³⁶ His commitment to fracking led to a 36 percent increase in Wisconsin frac sand mining in 2017 alone.³⁷

President Trump's deregulation efforts have also helped bolster broadband internet infrastructure for Wisconsin's rural communities. In 2018, 31 percent of Americans living in rural communities lacked access to at least one broadband service, in comparison to 43 percent of rural Wisconsinites.³⁸

When President Trump took office, the Bureau of Land Management took an average of 366 days to authorize requests to use public lands for broadband infrastructure improvements.³⁹ On January 8th, 2018, President Trump issued an Executive Order that made available more federal resources for rural broadband development and streamlined the application process for broadband providers to use federal lands.⁴⁰ As a result of President Trump's actions, \$80.9 million has been invested in rural broadband expansion programs for the Badger State, improving service for 14,000 Wisconsinites⁴¹ in Dunn,⁴² Chippewa, Rusk, and Taylor counties, with more to come.⁴³

President Trump Bolsters Domestic Electronics Manufacturing: Foxconn

In 2017, Foxconn announced a \$10 billion historic deal to build one of the largest electronic manufacturing facilities in the world.⁴⁴ Between 2018 and 2019, Foxconn conducted a massive site preparation of approximately 800 acres on the 3000-acre Wisconsin Valley Science and Technology Park campus.⁴⁵ This involved movement of enough dirt that, if placed into one foot cubic boxes, these boxes could nearly circle the earth.⁴⁶

In 2019, Foxconn used 8,000 tons of American-manufactured steel and more concrete than in the Empire State Building to begin construction of its one million square-foot Advanced Manufacturing Facility.⁴⁷ This facility will build next generation LCD pane technological devices and is critical to helping Wisconsin maintain its strong leadership in manufacturing.⁴⁸

Foxconn has already hired its first 600 American workers.⁴⁹ 2,400 Wisconsin residents representing 85 percent of counties state-wide have helped construct the Advanced Manufacturing facility outside of Racine.⁵⁰

Foxconn's 100-foot tall, 35,000 square foot High-Performance Computing Data Center Globe is projected to reach completion by the first quarter of 2021.⁵¹ Its 296,000 square-foot Smart Manufacturing Center, which will manufacture computer servers and data server racks, is projected to reach completion by year end 2020.⁵²

President Trump Joins Foxconn Executives for Ground Breaking at Their Wisconsin Site



Foxconn's 120,000 square foot Multipurpose Building already has employees making data servers, data server racks, and working side-by-side with 5G networks and artificial intelligence⁵³ at competitive wages.⁵⁴ During the China Virus pandemic, Foxconn also used this Multipurpose Building to manufacture millions of masks and thousands of ventilators for the people of Wisconsin and America.⁵⁵

The Trump Tax Cuts and Opportunity Zones

Critics of President Trump's historic Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 have tried to fool the American people into thinking these were tax cuts for the rich. But nothing could be further from the truth. The Trump tax cuts are family-friendly. Nearly 425,000 Wisconsin households are benefitting from the doubling of the child tax credit, and nearly 2 million Wisconsin households are benefitting from doubling the standard tax deduction.⁵⁶

Wisconsin companies like Musicnotes Inc. of Madison, the largest online sheet music retailer, have benefitted from lower corporate tax rates. It was able to grant all 55 employees a 3 percent pay raise.⁵⁷

The Trico Corporation in Pewaukee was able to expand its 401k contributions, and give their fulltime employees bonuses to the tune of \$650 each,⁵⁸ while Central Standard Distillery in Milwaukee was able to expand its staff by 22 percent and begin to offer healthcare to all of its employees.⁵⁹

Wisconsin is also home to 120 Opportunity Zones. Seventy percent are heavily concentrated in inner-city communities such as Madison, Green Bay, and Milwaukee. The other 30 percent are located in rural communities from the greater Rice Lake region to Rhinelander.⁶⁰

Large groups of ethnic minorities in these opportunity zones, including Blacks and Hispanics, are burdened with an average poverty rate of nearly 30 percent, high unemployment rates, and a near 30 percent severe rent burden average.⁶¹

Since passage of the Trump tax bill, more than \$245 million has been invested into these zones for projects that include the creation of mixed-use commercial space, real estate development, and new shopping centers.⁶² Investments in these Trump opportunity zones are literally providing great new opportunities to create good, high-paying jobs in the communities of Wisconsin much in need.

Defense Production Act

Let's turn now to a final driver in President Trump's "all job creation is local" strategy — the strategic use of the Defense Production Act, and DPA-related actions, to simultaneously defend the American people from the deadly Chinese Communist Party virus, onshore the production of our essential medicines, and create good paying jobs.

Consider, for example, 3M in Sheboygan Falls, which was awarded a \$76 million Defense Production Act Title III award in April to expand domestic manufacturing of N95 respirators to an additional 39 million units per month.⁶³ In May, 3M was also granted a \$126 million CARES Act contract to expand domestic production of N95 respirators to an additional 26 million per month.⁶⁴ Resulting from this, 3M, alone, will have provided over 1 billion USA-made N95 respirators by the end of the year.⁶⁵ These awards created over 80 new jobs in Sheboygan Falls.⁶⁶

Similarly, Hologic was awarded \$7.6 million to expand manufacturing of critical testing supplies in Menomonie and Somerset, adding two new production lines at each location while NPS, based in Green Bay and De Pere, was awarded a \$2.75 million contract to increase production of meltblown fiber, a critical filtration component in N95 respirators and surgical masks.⁶⁷ This contract supports the domestic production of millions of N95 respirators and surgical masks.⁶⁸

Conclusion

You can see, then, from this tour of the Wisconsin economy just how productive President Trump's "all job creation is local" strategy has been. While the deadly virus from Communist China has hit America and the American economy hard, the Trump economic team, led by the greatest jobs president and trade negotiator in history, is bringing prosperity back to the Great State of Wisconsin and to the American people.

So as we fight this Communist China Virus together, please always remember this: By January of 2020 – before the plague from Communist China attacked our shores – the success of President Trump's worker-focused strategy was undeniable. We had strong economic growth, historically low unemployment, and rising wages, particularly for Blue Collar America and our Black and Brown Communities. Together, we WILL get back to that pinnacle of Trump success as we pursue the twin missions of building a strong economy and defeating the deadly Chinese Communist Party virus.

President Trump Thanks Our Great National Guard and Armed Service Members



Endnotes

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⁶⁸ U.S. Department of Defense, “DOD Awards \$2.75 Million Contract to NPS to Increase Domestic Production of Meltblown Fiber,” 25 July 2020. <https://www.defense.gov/Newsroom/Releases/Release/Article/2288304/dod-awards-275-million-contract-to-nps-to-increase-domestic-production-of-meltb/>