

# Governor Walker Delivers for Business!

*Governor Scott Walker and WMC have worked together to drive the jobs agenda at the Capitol. Governor Walker's leadership has transformed Wisconsin's business climate to promote job creation and long-term growth. In 2011, dramatic changes occurred:*



## **TAXES AND SPENDING**

**NO-TAX-HIKE STATE BUDGET** – Governor Walker passed a two-year state budget that included no new taxes and was balanced without accounting gimmicks. The plan eliminates chronic deficits and runs a surplus at the end of two years to provide stability in our economy. (2011 Wisconsin Act 32)

**MANUFACTURERS TAX CREDIT** – Governor Walker supported a manufacturers tax credit that nearly eliminates income taxes paid on income generated from manufacturing in Wisconsin. The plan will dramatically reduce income tax liability for manufacturers and make Wisconsin an attractive place to create high-wage manufacturing jobs. (2011 Wisconsin Act 32)

**CONTROLLING PROPERTY TAXES** – Governor Walker supported limits on property tax increases imposed by municipalities, schools, counties, and technical college districts. (2011 Wisconsin Act 32)

**CONTROLLING WAGE AND BENEFIT SPENDING** – Governor Walker backed historic comprehensive collective bargaining reform that will help state and local governments control spending, and will diminish the strength and power of public employee unions in Wisconsin. (2011 Wisconsin Act 10)

**ENCOURAGING REINVESTMENT IN WISCONSIN** – Governor Walker supported a 100 percent exclusion for capital gains reinvested in a Wisconsin business within 180 days of the sale of the asset generating the gain, and a 100 percent exclusion for gains from the sale of a Wisconsin capital asset (real estate, personal property, ownership interest in a Wisconsin business) held for at least 5 years. (2011 Wisconsin Act 32)

**CORPORATE INCOME TAX HOLIDAY** – Governor Walker supported a two-year corporate income tax holiday for new businesses that locate in Wisconsin. (2011 Wisconsin Act 3)

**JOB CREATION TAX DEDUCTION** – Governor Walker backed a jobs tax deduction of \$4,000 per new employee for companies with less than \$5,000,000 in payroll and \$2,000 per new employee for companies with more than \$5,000,000 in payroll. (2011 Wisconsin Act 5)

**JOB CREATION TAX CREDIT EXPANSION** – Governor Walker backed the expansion of the jobs tax credit and the angel or early stage seed tax credit.

**TAX DEDUCTION FOR HSAs** – Governor Walker backed state tax-deductibility for health savings accounts to help employers and employees control health care costs. (2011 Wisconsin Act 1)



## PROVIDING FAIRNESS IN OUR LEGAL SYSTEM

**REQUIRE GUILT FOR JUDGMENTS** – Governor Walker backed the restoration of the age-old concept that a plaintiff must prove the defendant caused the harm. Repeals a Wisconsin Supreme Court ruling regarding collective liability for lead paint manufacturers. (2011 Wisconsin Act 2)

**COMPREHENSIVE LAWSUIT REFORM** – Governor Walker backed comprehensive lawsuit reforms that ensure that businesses are protected from frivolous lawsuits and predatory personal injury lawyers. (2011 Wisconsin Act 2)

**PUNITIVE DAMAGE LIMITS** – Governor Walker backed limits in punitive damage cases to \$200,000. (2011 Wisconsin Act 2)

**PRODUCT LIABILITY TIME LIMITS** – Governor Walker backed common sense time limits for launching a lawsuit against a manufacturer. (2011 Wisconsin Act 2)

**EXPERT WITNESS REFORM** – Governor Walker backed a change that cracks down on unqualified experts in the courtroom. (2011 Wisconsin Act 2)

## CUTTING RED TAPE & REFORMING REGULATIONS

**GOVERNOR VETO OF NEW REGULATIONS** – Governor Walker backed a common sense reform to require the governor to approve the development of any state agency administrative rule, and allow him to veto any proposed rule. This will help cut red tape and provide accountability. (2011 Wisconsin Act 21)

**COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS** – Governor Walker backed a reform that requires a cost-benefit analysis to be conducted for any new rule. (2011 Wisconsin Act 21)

**REIGNING IN RULES** – Governor Walker backed a reform that bans state agency rules from being more restrictive than state law. (2011 Wisconsin Act 21)

**ELIMINATING LOCAL ANTI-BUSINESS REGULATIONS** – Governor Walker backed a new state law that prohibits local governments from enacting their own family and medical leave laws. (2011 Wisconsin Act 16)

## EDUCATION REFORM

**EMPOWERING PARENTS** – Governor Walker backed education reforms that eliminate the enrollment caps for both the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program and the virtual charter school program. (2011 Wisconsin Act 32)



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