



REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS NELSON ASSEMBLY MAJORITY LEADER

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MAJORITY LEADER NELSON: ASSEMBLY TO VOTE ON LEGISLATION TO HELP SMALL BUSINESSES GROW

MADISON – Assembly Majority Leader Thomas Nelson (D-Kaukauna) announced that he has scheduled Assembly votes for today on legislation aimed at helping Wisconsin small businesses.

“With middle class families struggling, job creation needs to be our top priority,” said Representative Nelson. “That is why I have scheduled Assembly votes on commonsense proposals to help small businesses grow and get people back to work.”

Among the bills the Assembly will take up is AB 767. The legislation is the first proposal developed by Wisconsin’s Partnership for a Stronger Economy, a bipartisan working group of businesses and lawmakers formed to develop new ideas to create jobs. Among other things, the legislation would give small businesses a majority vote on the Small Business Regulatory Review Board and create a small business advocate at the Department of Commerce.

Representative Nelson also scheduled a vote on Senate Bill 190. Small businesses are often victims of hidden automatic renewal clauses in equipment and service contracts. The clauses can negatively impact small businesses’ bottom line with unexpected costs, hurting their ability to grow. SB190 would provide greater consumer protections for small businesses by requiring advance written notice of contract renewals, similar to what landlords provide to residential tenants.

“Small businesses are the engine of our economy, creating 65 percent of new jobs over a recent 15-year period,” said Representative Nelson. “With this proven record of success, we need to give them the tools and resources they need to expand and create jobs.”

Thursday’s bills build on the Assembly Democrats’ job agenda. Yesterday, Governor Doyle signed into law the American Jobs Act which the Assembly passed earlier in the session. The new law would prevent the state from using taxpayer dollars to purchase goods and services from companies that outsource jobs to other countries. Last year, Assembly Democrats created more than \$200 million worth of incentives for businesses to create and retain jobs. The incentives have helped dozens of Wisconsin companies like Enzymatic Therapy in Green Bay, Pacon Corporation in Appleton, and Mercury Marine in Fond du Lac create jobs and grow.

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