



Wisconsin State Legislature

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Leibham, Ziegelbauer Win Approval of Local Job Creation Measure

Bill clears state government red tape for local entrepreneur

State Capitol — A bill that will help facilitate the creation of 30 jobs in Manitowoc County has received the final approval of the State Legislature according to State Senator Joe Leibham (R–Sheboygan) and State Representative Bob Ziegelbauer (D–Manitowoc).

Senate Bill (SB) 268, which was authored by Senator Leibham and Representative Ziegelbauer, gives local units of government more authority in making decisions on where certain rendering-type facilities may be located. In addition, the bill adjusts current state regulations to recognize the differences between traditional rendering and a specific process that converts meat waste to pet food.

SB 268 now awaits Governor Jim Doyle's signature.

The idea behind the bill was brought to Senator Leibham and Representative Ziegelbauer by a constituent who was hoping to open a small business that would involve the recycling of scrap meats and oils picked up from restaurants and grocery stores throughout the Midwest. The project earned the approval of the local municipality, but state government regulators stepped in and terminated it based upon a state statutory technicality. SB 268 fixes this problem.

“As we work to build a strong economic recovery, the state government should not be standing in the way of creating good local jobs,” said Senator Leibham. “SB 268 was a strong bipartisan effort that injects local control and common sense into a process that was tightly restricted by our state government. We were proud to move this important bill forward on behalf of this local businessman and his future employees.”

“We're delighted that we finally got this accomplished,” said Representative Ziegelbauer. “This is a good example of how we can build our economy again, by removing unnecessary government regulations to allow private entrepreneurs the chance to use their own resources to be successful.”

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