



State Senator  
**Alberta Darling**  
8th Senate District



E-mail Update

June 12, 2015

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Dear Friends,

Wisconsin employers are bullish about the future. [A recent Manpower survey](#) shows most employers expect to maintain or increase their current workforce level. The latest survey showed only 4% of employers expect to decrease their workforce in the coming months.

The survey looks at how many employers expect to hire and subtracts the amount who expect to let workers go. Manpower then reports the figures as the "net employment outlook." Their latest survey has Wisconsin employers at their second highest net employment outlook in the last five years.

Metro Milwaukee employers were also very optimistic. The survey showed employers in our area at their third highest net employment outlook in the last five years. This survey proves once again that Wisconsin is open for business!

As always, if you have any ideas on how to improve our great state, please do not hesitate to contact me at [Sen.Darling@legis.wi.gov](mailto:Sen.Darling@legis.wi.gov) or at 608-266-5830.

Sincerely,

Alberta Darling

**Links**



Senator Darling's  
Website



## Keeping Bucks Saves Taxpayers Dough

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Late last week, Governor Walker announced a plan that both keeps Milwaukee's status as a major league city and protects taxpayers.

If the Milwaukee Bucks leave, taxpayers will be on the hook for \$419 million over the next 20 years. Not only would we lose the revenue from players salaries, but taxpayers would have to continue to pay for the upkeep of the Bradley Center. The bottom line is taxpayers will save money if the state assists in building a new facility for the Milwaukee Bucks.

Governor Walker's office released these details about the plan:

### **How it works:**

- For every dollar the state invests, state taxpayers will get a \$3 return through income tax revenue.
- State and local governments will fund \$250 million, or half of the total project costs, toward building the new arena without tax increases or state bonding.
  - The state puts forward \$4 million per year for 20 years, with the total state investment capped at \$80 million.
  - The city will contribute \$47 million through the creation of a TID and paying for a parking structure in upfront cash.
  - The county contributes \$4 million per year over 20 years through a state debt collection agreement.
  - The Wisconsin Center District uses existing revenue streams to finance roughly \$93 million in bonding for the plan.

- Caps state contribution at \$80 million toward the arena project.
- Caps the total public contribution to the arena project at \$250 million.
- Claw back provisions included to protect both the state and local governments. If the Bucks leave they will have to pay back the public investment. The payback will be proportional to dollars contributed.
- Any cost overruns would be paid by other sources, but not the state.
- Maintenance and operations will be paid for by the team, not by the state or local governments.
- The team and its partners will contribute 50 percent of the cost of the project with local funding coming in at 39 percent and the state contribution estimated at 11 percent of the total cost.

**Benefits of the plan:**

- Protects state taxpayers from losses that would be at least \$419 million over the next 20 years, including:
  - Base income tax revenue generated by the Milwaukee Bucks and from the visiting teams of \$6.5 million per year in state income taxes, or \$130 million over 20 years;
  - Income tax revenue growth estimated at \$169 million over 20 years due to future contracts and estimated NBA pay increases;
  - Taxpayer liability for the Bradley Center estimated at \$120 million in costs over the next ten years.
- For every dollar the state invests, state taxpayers will get a \$3 return through income tax revenue.
- Supports a new arena without tax increases or state bonding.
- Creates or preserves roughly 15,000 permanent and temporary construction jobs.
- Protects state taxpayers by requiring the Bucks to reimburse the public investment should they leave the state.
- The state will benefit from a \$1 billion economic development project, which is estimated to create or preserve 15,000 permanent and temporary construction jobs.

## **Around the 8th...**

It's that time of year when we are blessed with many visits from our area's great schools. Here are some of the schools that recently visited our beautiful State Capitol:



**Donges Bay Elementary School in Mequon**



**Brown Deer Elementary School in Brown Deer**



**Oriole Lane Elementary School in Mequon**