



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
GARY HEBL
46TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PRESS RELEASE

HEBL CALLS FOR ACTION ON THE ECONOMIC CRISIS

MADISON - State Representative Gary Hebl (D-46th Assembly District), along with some of his colleagues in the State Assembly Thursday, called for action to create jobs and protect working families in Wisconsin.

"The crisis on Wall Street and the partisan wrangling in Washington has highlighted the need for action here in Wisconsin," Hebl said following the press conference held in the State Assembly Parlor. "We need bipartisan solutions, which create good family-supporting jobs and common sense regulations, which help working people make ends meet."

During the press conference, Hebl and his colleagues announced that fixing the economy will be their top priority in the next legislative session and unveiled their plan to help get Wisconsin's economy back on track. These proposals have limited cost, and would offer a return to common sense in economic policy.

The plan includes the following:

Invest in Green Jobs for Wisconsin

Wisconsin citizens currently spend more than \$20 billion every year on energy, with the vast majority of the money going to other states and countries. Hebl's plan would generate 25 percent of our energy from renewable sources by the year 2025 and have 10 percent of those renewable fuels come from right here in the Badger State. Capturing 10 percent of the renewable market will generate billions each year for our state's economy and create nearly 20,000 green jobs.

- **\$30 million for Energy Independence Grant and Loan Program** - In his FY 2007-09 biennial budget Governor Doyle proposed spending \$30 million on renewable energy. This measure would get our state back to where it should be in adequately funding renewable energy grants that produce green jobs.

- **25 percent renewable energy research and development tax credit** - The renewable energy industry represents the jobs of the future for Wisconsin. The state should be supporting companies who are investing in creating these jobs that will fuel the future of our state's economy. Green jobs that create clean energy right here in the Badger state will not only strengthen our economy but will protect our environment as well.

Keep Jobs in Wisconsin and America

We need to start investing in America again: in small businesses and emerging industries; in public education and technical schools; and in new energy sources that create jobs and free us from our dependence on foreign oil. We must continue to do more to ensure that the jobs we do have stay here and continue to train our workforce so we can capture good paying high-tech jobs.

- **American Jobs Act** - Prohibits the state from granting contracts to companies who send jobs overseas. We need to stop rewarding corporations that send our jobs overseas and provide incentives to responsible companies who pay living wages and good benefits to American workers.
- **Double funding for the Wisconsin Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program** - This successful program provides assistance to Wisconsin businesses so they can continue to train their workforce to compete in the global economy. The program has already trained more than 20,000 Wisconsin workers and this plan calls for doubling its budget to a total of \$3 million.

Make Life More Affordable for Middle Class Families

America's middle class is falling behind. Parents are working harder than ever just to keep up with the cost of living. They are working longer hours and seeing their kids less and less and still falling behind. American workers are more productive than ever but never see the benefits. CEO salaries skyrocket while workers wages remain flat. We need an economy that works for the people who work for a living.

- **Enforce existing anti-gouging law** - In 2006 Wisconsin passed a tough, bipartisan anti-gouging law to prohibit retailers from raising the price of goods by more than 10 percent during natural disasters or national emergencies. We need to enforce this existing common sense regulation.
- **Wall Street Accountability Act** - Middle class families are shouldering more of the tax burden while oil companies and giant corporations who make millions in our state aren't paying their fair share. The Wall Street Accountability Act will bring transparency to the tax debate by requiring the oil companies and big businesses that make money in Wisconsin to disclose exactly which taxes they pay and which ones they don't pay.

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