



PATRICK TESTIN STATE SENATOR

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Three bipartisan Sen. Testin bills signed into law

MADISON, Wis. – Sen. Patrick Testin (R-Stevens Point) is pleased that three of his bills that garnered bipartisan support have been signed into law.

The first, SB 880, helps pave the way for Agristo, a potato processing company, to construct a \$50 million plant in Stevens Point that is expected to bring 150 well-paying jobs to the area. Additionally, Agristo is planning to purchase an estimated 20,000 acres of potato crop per year from Wisconsin farmers.

However, the limitations placed on the total value of taxable property that may be included in a tax incremental financing district have presented a roadblock for Agristo to build a facility at the East Park Commerce Center. SB 880 fixes that issue by eliminating the equalized value threshold for that specific TID.

“Stevens Point officials have been working hard to recruit Agristo to construct a plant in the city, but our state laws related to tax incremental financing districts have been a sticking point in their negotiations,” Sen. Testin said. “With North Dakota also trying to lure the potato processing company there, I am glad we were able to make this commonsense change to increase our chances of securing Agristo and all the economic benefits that will come with them.”

The second bill, AB 230, creates a system that better reflects the partnership between recreational vehicle manufacturers and dealers. It also strengthens the viability of the RV industry, which generates an annual economic impact of approximately \$3 billion in Wisconsin.

“Many RV dealerships feel that their relationship with manufacturers has been one-sided, with manufacturers having too much power and dealerships being left with too much risk,” Sen. Testin said. “AB 230 strikes a fairer balance between dealers and manufacturers and is a compromise that was agreed upon by both sides. This is good for RV dealerships, it’s good for RV manufacturers and it’s good for RV consumers.”

The third bill, SB 591, requires all driver’s education courses in Wisconsin to include 30 minutes of instruction time on highway work zone hazards.

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