

WEDA 2007 State Budget Priorities

How WEDA Fared

November, 2007

[The following is a list of 2007 State Budget Priorities adopted by the WEDA Board of Directors and advanced with the Legislature and Administration during the budget process--and a notation of whether or not the respective items are included in the bill passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor.]

BUSINESS CLIMATE

Funding for State Marketing Efforts

WEDA **SUPPORTED** the provision to set aside \$750,000 for Forward Wisconsin (& Commerce) to enhance our entire state's marketing efforts. **IN**

Wisconsin Development Fund

WEDA **SUPPORTED** the proposal to include \$15 million in new annual revenues for grants and loans for renewable energy if there is a suitable funding source. **IN**

Levy Limit TID

WEDA **SUPPORTED** the provision to allow any municipality that closes a TID to increase its levy by an additional amount equal to one-half of the final increment value of the TID. **IN**

Venture Capital and Angel Investments

WEDA **SUPPORTED** the proposal to increase angel and venture capital credits by \$2.5 million each annually. **IN**

Class B Liquor Licenses

WEDA **SUPPORTED** the exception of "full service" restaurant from the number of liquor licenses that can be issued by a municipality. **OUT**

Seller/Manufacturer Liability

WEDA **SUPPORTED** the provision to overturn the *Thomas* "risk contribution" decision and restore the requirement to prove actual causation in mass torts cases. **OUT**

TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Transportation Fund Integrity

WEDA **SUPPORTED** restoring the integrity of the Transportation Fund by eliminating funding of general purpose programs from the Transportation Fund and prohibiting the use of monies from the Transportation Fund for other than transportation programs. **IN**

Additional Revenue Sources

WEDA **SUPPORTED** looking to new revenue sources, such as the growth of sales tax on vehicle sales and services, and supported increases to registration fees. **Registration fees are increased. Sales tax dollars are not directed to the fund**

WORKFORCE

WMEP

WEDA **SUPPORTED** the provision for a \$350,000 GPR annual increase for manufacturing extension center grants to \$1.2 million annually. **IN**

Youth Apprenticeship

WEDA **SUPPORTED** increased funding for Wisconsin's Youth Apprenticeship Training program. **IN**

Training Program Grants

WEDA **SUPPORTED** increased funding for the Workforce Advancement Training (WAT) grant program. **IN**

Business Employee's Skills Training (BEST) Program

WEDA **SUPPORTED** adequate funding of the BEST program. **No change to the BEST Program.**

OTHER AREAS OF INTEREST

Combined Reporting

WEDA **OPPOSED** enactment of a provision requiring combined reporting for corporate income taxation. **OUT**

Oil Company Gross receipts Tax

WEDA **OPPOSED** the imposition of a gross receipts tax on oil companies. **OUT**

Tipping Fee Increases

WEDA **OPPOSED** increases in the tipping fees. **Tipping fees are increased a total of \$2.10 combined for the environmental and recycling funds. This is a reduction from the Governor's proposal and an even further reduction from the Senate action.**

Real Estate Transfer Fee Increases

WEDA **OPPOSED** any increase in the real estate transfer fees. **OUT**