



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2011 Wisconsin Act 37
[2011 Assembly Bill 13]

**Development Opportunity Zone in
the City of Beloit**

Development opportunity zones are designated areas in which persons who are conducting or intend to conduct economic activity are entitled to receive specified tax benefits relating to environmental remediation, jobs, and capital investment. *2011 Wisconsin Act 37* establishes a development opportunity zone in the City of Beloit, the boundaries of which are to be provided to the Department of Commerce (Commerce)* by the city. The zone is authorized for five years, with no more than \$5 million in tax benefits to be allocated over the life of the zone to persons conducting or intending to conduct specified economic activities in the zone. The Act authorizes Commerce to extend the zone for an additional five years, if Commerce determines that the extension will support economic development within the city. An additional \$5 million in tax benefits would be authorized if Commerce extends the zone.

In addition to the development opportunity zone created under the Act, two development opportunity zones – located in the Cities of Janesville and Kenosha – are currently in effect. A previous development opportunity zone authorized for the Gateway Project in the City of Beloit expired in September 2010.

Effective date: August 2, 2011

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* 2011 Wisconsin Act 7 created the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) and authorized the Secretary of the Department of Administration to transfer funds and positions related to economic development from Commerce to WEDC. In addition, 2011 Wisconsin Act 32, the 2011-13 Biennial Budget Act, transferred the authority for administering development opportunity zones and other economic development programs to WEDC. When the Legislative Reference Bureau's correction bill is enacted, statutory references to Commerce will be changed to WEDC.

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>.