DRAFTER'S NOTE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

March 11, 2013

Senator Harsdorf:

Please review this draft carefully to ensure that it is consistent with your intent.

This redraft creates an annual financial audit requirement for the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC). The request was to require WEDC to conduct a financial audit in years in which the Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB) does not audit WEDC. Under current law, LAB conducts a financial audit of WEDC once per biennium, beginning in 2013. *See* s. 13.94 (1) (dr), stats.

However, because the LAB audit is tied to the fiscal biennium, and presumably covers the entire fiscal biennium, it is not clear what it would mean to require WEDC to conduct an audit for years not audited by LAB. Therefore, the draft requires WEDC to conduct an audit of its financial statements for the previous fiscal year by October 1 of each year, and the draft further requires WEDC to submit its audit report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee and the chief clerk of each house of the legislature, for distribution to the legislature. That annual reporting requirement is consistent with WEDC's reporting obligations under current law with respect to its economic development programs. Please let me know if this redraft is not consistent with your intent or if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Michael Gallagher Legislative Attorney Phone: (608) 267–7511 E-mail: michael.gallagher@legis.wisconsin.gov