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STATE DOCUMENT

The State of Wisconsin

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT



Executive Order #301

Relating to the Creation of the Wisconsin International Trade Council

WHEREAS, international trade is important to the health of Wisconsin's economy, and has accounted for much of its recent net economic growth; and

WHEREAS, 200,000 manufacturing jobs in Wisconsin are the direct result of the exports from 2,500 Wisconsin manufacturers; and

WHEREAS, being actively engaged in international trade makes businesses and therefore the State as a whole more competitive; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin businesses must become stronger global competitors and can no longer rely solely on the domestic market for growth; and

WHEREAS, existing public and private export assistance services need to be accessible and easy to use; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin must develop a comprehensive international trade development strategy and an organizational system in order to make this great state "The Trade State";

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TOMMY G. THOMPSON, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of this State, and specifically by Section 14.019 of the Wisconsin Statutes, do hereby:

1. Create the Wisconsin International Trade Council (the "Council"), and charge the Council with the following responsibilities related to leadership in international trade development:

a. Advising the Governor, the Secretary of the Department of Commerce and the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, on issues concerning the state's role in the development of international trade, including, but not limited to, the following:

- i) the impact of national trade policies on Wisconsin businesses, and measures available to the state to influence such policies;
- ii) the state finance, taxation and regulatory policies which could increase incentives or reduce disincentives to international trade;
- iii) international trade services now provided and international trade services that need to be developed.

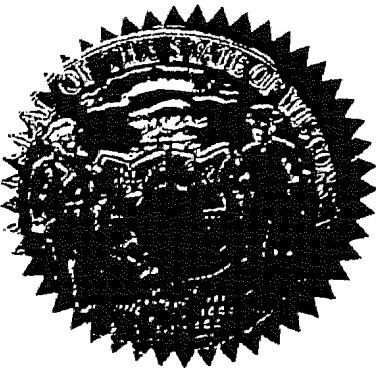
b. Developing procedures to integrate existing public and private export assistance services into an accessible and easy to use system that provides Wisconsin businesses the technical, financial, and educational services they need to succeed in international markets.

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LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

2. Require the Council to develop an annual International Trade Development Plan that includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - a. specific, measurable benchmarks and performance evaluation criteria for trade development services;
 - b. target markets for trade development through trade shows, trade missions and trade representative offices;
 - c. public and private cooperative trade development services and programs.
3. Provide that the Council shall encourage the mobilization of Wisconsin's public and private educational infrastructure, from kindergarten through post-graduate studies, to support the internationalization of Wisconsin businesses.
4. Require the Council to develop grant programs to support the development and expansion of foreign trade by Wisconsin businesses.
5. Require the Council to hold an annual meeting, chaired by the Governor or his designee, to present the International Trade Development Plan and evaluate the "state of the state" with respect to international trade.
6. Provide that the Council shall consist of not more than thirty (30) voting members appointed by the Governor to serve at the pleasure of the Governor and that the Governor shall select a chair from the voting membership who shall serve in this capacity at the pleasure of the Governor.
7. Provide that the chair may designate individuals with specialized knowledge in the field of international trade as non-voting associate members of the Council to serve in that capacity at the pleasure of the chair.
8. Instruct the Secretary of the Department of Administration to provide the Council with such sums of money as are necessary for travel and operating expenses as provided under Section 20.505(3)(a) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

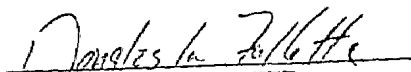


IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have

hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this nineteenth day of November in the year one thousand nine hundred and ninety-six.


TOMMY G. THOMPSON
Governor

By the Governor:


DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State