



## Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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January 14, 2010

TO: Members  
Joint Committee on Finance

FROM: Bob Lang, Director

SUBJECT: Governor's Section 13.10 Request for Federal Economic Stimulus Funding for Highway Construction Industry Training Grants -- Agenda Item VI

### **REQUEST**

The Governor requests approval of \$395,148 in federal economic stimulus funds for two grants for highway construction industry worker training programs.

### **BACKGROUND**

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 provided \$20.0 million to the Federal Highway Administration's on-the-job training/supportive services program for making grants for highway construction industry worker training programs with a concentration on minority and women participants. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation contracts with educational institutions and nonprofit organizations to provide such training. The Federal Highway Administration awarded the state two grants to extend and expand two existing training programs in Wisconsin. One grant, for \$200,000, is for the extension of a College of Menominee Nation training program through August, 2010, and the other grant, for \$195,148, is for the expansion of a training program, administered by the Forward Service Corporation, for training in central Wisconsin, with a focus on members of the Ho Chunk Nation.

### **CONCLUSION**

The Governor's request for the use of \$395,148 in federal economic stimulus funds for the worker training programs satisfies a requirement in 2009 Wisconsin Act 2 that a plan be submitted to the Committee for expenditure of such funds. Since the funding was awarded by the federal government specifically for these programs, no alternative uses of the funds are possible under the federal program.

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