

## **EXECUTIVE ORDER # 274**

## Relating to the Creation of the Wisconsin Office of Recovery and Reinvestment

WHEREAS, the national economy is in crisis as credit is frozen, consumer purchasing power is in decline, jobs continue to be lost, and the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities estimates states' budget shortfalls of \$350 billion for the remaining six months of this fiscal year and the next two fiscal years; and

WHEREAS, despite cutting \$500 million in Wisconsin's current budget, Wisconsin is facing a projected biennial budget shortfall of \$5.4 billion, due to the slumping national economy, and Wisconsin's December unemployment rate hit 5.8%, the highest December rate since the early 1980s as employers of all sizes continued to shed jobs in greater numbers; and

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama is developing a federal economic stimulus plan and the United States House of Representatives has unveiled a federal economic stimulus bill known as the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009"; and

WHEREAS, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 will make supplemental appropriations for job preservation and creation, infrastructure investment, energy efficiency and science, assistance to the unemployed, and State and local fiscal stabilization; and

WHEREAS, the specific purposes of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 include preserving and creating jobs; promoting economic recovery; assisting those most impacted by the recession; providing investments needed to increase economic efficiency by spurring technological advances in science and health; investing in transportation, environmental protection and other infrastructure that will provide long-term economic benefits; and stabilizing State and local government budgets, in order to minimize and avoid reductions in essential services and counterproductive state and local tax increases; and

WHEREAS, it is expected that the State of Wisconsin will receive federal economic assistance, including tax credits or other tax relief, under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and/or other federal economic stimulus legislation for use consistent with the purposes described above; and

WHEREAS, with every passing day more jobs cuts are announced and hard working Wisconsin families continue to feel the pressures of the national economic crisis, making it imperative that Wisconsin is ready to move the federal stimulus money as quickly as possible to maintain current jobs, create new jobs and invest in long-term economic growth for the state; and

whereas, the federal stimulus package also provides an opportunity to create jobs though larger, longer-range projects that invest in our state's assets and set a new direction for a stronger economy and a greener, more energy independent future for Wisconsin;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jim Doyle, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested to me by the Constitution and the laws of this State, and specifically by Section 14.019 of the Wisconsin Statutes, do hereby:

- 1. Establish the Wisconsin Office of Recovery and Reinvestment; and
- Provide that the Office of Recovery and Reinvestment shall be responsible for administering and complying with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and/or other federal economic stimulus legislation; and
- 3. Provide that the Office of Recovery and Reinvestment shall consist of members as the Governor or the Secretary of the Department of Administration may designate; and
- 4. Direct that the Secretary of the Department of Administration establish the Office of Recovery and Reinvestment within the Department of Administration as authorized under Wis. Stat. § 15.02(3); and
- 5. Direct departments, agencies, and other instrumentalities of the state to, if requested by the Secretary of the Department of Administration, negotiate interchange agreements as authorized under Wis. Stat. § 230.047 with the Department of Administration to provide support to the Office of Recovery and Reinvestment; and
- 6. Direct the Department of Administration to provide staff support to the Office of Recovery and Reinvestment as appropriate.

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE

Secretary of State

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 twenty-third day of January in the year two thousand nine.

JIM DOYLE Governor