



State of Wisconsin
2021 - 2022 LEGISLATURE

LRB-5239/1
MPG:amn

2021 SENATE BILL 729

November 30, 2021 - Introduced by Senators FEYEN, BALLWEG, COWLES, DARLING, PFAFF, RINGHAND and WANGGAARD, cosponsored by Representatives ZIMMERMAN, MCGUIRE, ARMSTRONG, CABRAL-GUEVARA, DALLMAN, DRAKE, HORLACHER, KUGLITSCH, LOUDENBECK, MACCO, MOSES, NEYLON, NOVAK, PENTERMAN, PLUMER, ROZAR, SCHRAA, SKOWRONSKI, SNYDER, TUSLER, VRUWINK and WITTKÉ. Referred to Committee on Financial Institutions and Revenue.

1 **AN ACT** *to renumber and amend* 238.15 (1) (b); and *to create* 238.15 (1) (b) 1.,
2 2., 3. and 4. of the statutes; **relating to:** qualified new business venture
3 eligibility.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation may certify certain businesses as “qualified new business ventures” for purposes of receiving investments that qualify the investors for tax credits under the angel and early stage seed investment tax credit program. WEDC may certify a business as a qualified new business venture if, among other requirements, at least 51 percent of the employees employed by the business are employed in Wisconsin.

Under this bill, a business remains eligible for certification as a qualified new business venture if it fails to satisfy that 51 percent in-state employment requirement due to a business merger or acquisition, provided that all of the following apply:

1. The business maintains its headquarters in Wisconsin.
2. After the merger or acquisition, the business increases the number of employees the business employs in Wisconsin.
3. WEDC determines that the merger or acquisition was not for the purpose of relocating the business’s operations or employees outside Wisconsin or for the purpose of ceasing the business’s efforts to further grow and expand in Wisconsin.

