

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, April 26, 2011

CONTACT: John Dipko, Communications Director, 608-266-6753

On the Web: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/news.htm>

## Secretary Perez Cites Growing Demand for Labor, Increasing Employment Opportunities for Job Seekers

### *While visiting Kenosha, Labor Secretary notes hiring incentives for employers*

KENOSHA – In a series of Kenosha County events today, Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Manny Perez cited the increasing demand for labor and employment opportunities for job seekers, as Wisconsin's business climate steadily improves under Governor Walker's leadership.

"For several weeks, over 28,000 openings have been listed throughout the state on our online employment site, [www.JobCenterofWisconsin.com](http://www.JobCenterofWisconsin.com)," Secretary Perez said. "We have seen job opportunities increase since Governor Walker took office in January and declared Wisconsin open for business. He is working to create a business-friendly environment and jobs. We can help job seekers find work, and employers who hire them may qualify for incentives."

Secretary Perez said Wisconsin provides a variety of hiring incentives for veterans, people with disabilities, and others who face major barriers to employment. He noted several federally-funded incentives:

- **Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC)** – An employer could be eligible for a tax credit from \$1,500 to as much as \$9,000. The credit applies to new employees who belong to one of nine groups that have traditionally faced barriers to employment: veterans, people with disabilities, ex-offenders, welfare and food stamp recipients, and individuals on long-term family assistance.
- **Office of Veterans Services On-the-Job Training** – Depending on the number of veterans hired, an employer can be reimbursed from 50 to 90 percent of wages paid to a veteran for up to six months of on-the-job training.
- **Division of Vocational Rehabilitation On-the-Job Training** – The program will pay 50 percent of wages and fringe benefits up to 90 days when an employer hires a person with disabilities served by DVR.

Secretary Perez visited IEA, Inc., a Kenosha manufacturer of heavy duty, industrial radiators. He also addressed the Tri-County Workforce Development Board, approximately 30 workforce and economic development representative from Kenosha, Racine and Walworth counties.

Job seekers can find more information about increasing employment opportunities at:  
<https://jobcenterofwisconsin.com/>

Employers can learn more about hiring incentives at:

<http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/jobservice/taxcredit/>

[http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/veterans/e\\_emprs\\_incent.htm](http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/veterans/e_emprs_incent.htm)

[http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/publications/dvr/pdf/dvr\\_16655\\_p.pdf](http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/publications/dvr/pdf/dvr_16655_p.pdf)