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## **With Senate Approval, Secretary Baumbach Keeps State Workforce Agency on Course, Helping Businesses Create Jobs, Empowering Job Seekers**

### ***Governor Walker's new Cabinet member thanks Senate for confirming appointment***

MADISON – Following Senate confirmation, Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Scott Baumbach said today the agency would build on initial progress and further help Governor Scott Walker achieve his vision of creating 250,000 jobs by 2015.

“Under Governor Scott Walker’s leadership, Wisconsin is moving in the right direction, and we’re seeing job growth as a result,” Secretary Baumbach said. “Since Governor Walker declared Wisconsin open for business, Wisconsin has been adding jobs at a pace to meet his goal of 250,000 new jobs by 2015. As DWD Secretary, I will work to help him continue the momentum. As one example, we are moving to create a more flexible, nimble workforce system, one that provides employers the skilled workers they need to succeed. Our ultimate goal is to make Wisconsin the workforce of choice.”

With over 1,600 employees and a budget of nearly \$500 million, DWD works with employers through the local workforce development board organization to anticipate and meet private sector labor needs, facilitate worker training aligned to meeting private sector labor demands and employment services to workers. DWD also helps people with disabilities gain employment and independence, manages the Equal Rights Division, and administers Unemployment Insurance and Worker’s Compensation programs.

Secretary Baumbach thanked the Senate, in particular Senate President Mike Ellis and Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald, for moving swiftly to confirm his appointment.

“I am honored to be a member of Governor Walker’s Cabinet and lead such an important agency during a crucial period of economic recovery,” Secretary Baumbach said. “I am grateful for the Senate’s prompt action, which demonstrates a sense of urgency and commitment to getting Wisconsin working again.”

Secretary Baumbach served as deputy secretary from January until May when he assumed duties as interim secretary. Governor Walker appointed him Secretary on June 8. An attorney, he was a member of Michael Best & Friedrich LLP from 2001 until joining Governor Walker’s Administration. In 2000, he served as a law clerk to then-Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Diane Sykes.

Secretary Baumbach received his law degree from Marquette University, graduating Cum Laude, and he received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Cum Laude, from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.