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## **Secretary Newson Salutes Veterans, Commends Hormel Foods Beloit as Strong Workforce Partner in Hiring Veterans**

### ***Hormel Foods Beloit employs 32 veterans; among top Rock County employers***

BELOIT – During a visit to Hormel Foods Beloit today, Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Reggie Newson commended the Rock County employer for being a strong partner in providing employment opportunities for veterans.

“The brave men and women of Wisconsin’s veteran community have made great sacrifices in serving our country and providing them employment opportunities is one way for us to show them our appreciation,” Secretary Newson said. “Hormel Foods Beloit has been a strong partner, helping us serve veterans, and on behalf of Governor Walker, we thank the veterans employed by Hormel Foods Beloit and commend Hormel Foods Beloit for supporting our veterans at home.”

Hormel Foods Beloit has over 240 employees and 32 of them are veterans. The veterans working at Hormel Foods Beloit include two disabled veterans hired recently with assistance from DWD’s Office of Veterans Employment services. Hormel Foods Beloit ranks among Rock County’s top employers of veterans.

The staff of 34 veterans at DWD Office of Veterans Employment Services works in area job centers to provide veterans employment and training services, as well as work with employers to provide veterans employment opportunities.

DWD’s Office of Veterans Employment Services hosted a number of successful job fairs this year throughout the state, including a fair held in Rothschild in conjunction with Congressman Sean Duffy that drew over 100 employers. This year, DWD also joined in sponsoring a “Veterans in Piping” program that is among the first of its kind in the country. Veterans attend a 20-week pre-apprenticeship training program in welding. Graduates continue apprenticeship training to achieve journeyworker status with a job guaranteed in the piping industry.

With approximately 1,600 employees, DWD works with employers to fill jobs, provide training and employment services to workers, enforce workers’ rights and administer Unemployment Insurance and Worker’s Compensation programs.

For more information on DWD Office of Veterans Services: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/veterans/>

