

Democrats Wanted More Accountability and Transparency at WEDC

Written by Wisconsin Democrats

Friday, 12 May 2017 08:07 - Last Updated Friday, 12 May 2017 08:37



Joint Finance Committee Republicans block Democratic attempts to recoup awards that are in default, limit outsourced jobs, and make job creation a condition of all awards.

MADISON - The budget-writing Joint Finance Committee met for an executive session on Tuesday, May 10th. Agency budgets debated by the committee included the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, Military Affairs, Justice, Secretary of State and the Child Abuse and the Neglect Prevention Board.

Democrats offered several motions to increase accountability, expand economic opportunities and invest in local communities that were rejected by the Republican majority. On the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC), Democrats offered motions to increase accountability and transparency of the agency.

The motions included:

- granting additional clawback authority for WEDC to recoup awards that are in default;
- adding award conditions that would require an award recipient to notify WEDC when jobs are outsourced;
- requiring that job creation be a condition of *all* awards, and;
- requiring that a defaulted award recipient rectify their defaulted award before receiving additional tax credits, including the manufacturing and agriculture tax credit

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