



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2009 Assembly Bill 904

**Assembly Substitute
Amendment 1**

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Assembly Bill 904 authorizes the Department of Commerce to make loans to manufacturing businesses for various purposes, including implementing energy efficiency or renewable energy measures in their facilities to enhance their competitiveness. The department must promulgate rules establishing eligibility criteria for this loan program, including criteria that give priority to existing manufacturing businesses and that specify the minimum level of wages that must be paid to persons that perform work paid for with the proceeds of a loan made under the program.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 to Assembly Bill 904 is the same as Assembly Bill 904, except that the substitute amendment modifies the guidance for the department's rule-making specifying the eligibility criteria for loans made under the program. In particular, the substitute amendment directs the department to give priority to not only existing manufacturing businesses but also to idle manufacturing facilities and refers to criteria for both job retention and job creation standards for loan recipients. The substitute amendment also replaces the criterion for the level of wages that must be paid to persons who perform work paid for with the proceeds of a loan made under the program to require that this work must be performed by one of the following:

- Employees who are paid an hourly wage that is not less than 150% of the federal minimum wage.
- A contractor or subcontractor that agrees to pay all employees who perform work paid for with the proceeds of a loan under this program an hourly wage that is not less than 150% of the federal minimum wage.

Legislative History

On April 7, 2010, the Joint Committee on Finance offered Assembly Substitute Amendment 1, to 2009 Assembly Bill 904. On April 7, 2010, the Joint Committee on Finance adopted Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 and recommended passage of Assembly Bill 904, as amended, by separate votes of Ayes, 11; Noes, 4; and Absent, 1.

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