Walker and Republicans Blame the Workers As Wisconsin Continues Near Bottom in Jobs



MADISON - The release of new jobs numbers Thursday continues to show that Governor Walker's and the Republicans' agenda is failing Wisconsin residents both compared to our Midwestern neighbors and the nation as a whole.

In the final quarterly jobs report before November's election, Wisconsin continued to lag the nation and most of the Midwest in its rate of job creation.

Wisconsin gained 28,712 private-sector jobs in the 12-month period from March 2013 to March 2014, a 1.26% growth rate that **ranks the state 33rd among the 50 states** for the period, Thursday's report showed.

The state's job-creation pace was virtually unchanged from the previous quarter, when Wisconsin added jobs at a rate of 1.27%. Wisconsin continues to trail the rest of its Midwest peers: Michigan, Iowa, Ohio and Indiana.



On the new report, State Senator Dave Hansen (D-Green Bay) said:

"Whether you look at the numbers since Governor Walker and the Republicans took power or just in the last year or so Wisconsin continues to rank near the bottom in the nation for job creation," said Hansen. "Clearly a diet of tax cuts for corporations and the rich coupled with deep cuts to education, job training and their failure on health care is not working for the average person in Wisconsin."

Wisconsin ranks 35th nationally in private sector job gains since the first quarter of 2011 & 33rd in one-year private sector job gains from Mar 2013- March 2014. Since the first quarter of 2011 all of Wisconsin's neighbors have gained private sector jobs at a faster pace than Wisconsin. Under the Republicans' failed agenda Wisconsin has remained behind the national pace for

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one-year private sector job gains for 11 consecutive quarters since the Governor's first budget went into effect in July of 2011.

"The notion that if we give more of our money to the richest 1% that average families in Wisconsin will benefit is clearly not the case. The real job creators are the people who go to work every day to earn a living and create consumer demand by spending their hard-earned wages at businesses in their local communities."

Wisconsin continues to lag behind the national pace of 2.08% in one-year job gains by 65%, creating jobs at a meager 1.26%

"The way to create jobs isn't to blame your failures and broken promises on the people who are desperately trying to find work, but to enact policies that will give them the freedom to pursue their dreams, provide for their families and get ahead in life."

"That can only be done by investing in those things that not only strengthen the middle class but provide the educational and economic opportunities that allow people at the lower end of the economic ladder to move up into the middle class."

Senator Hansen said the way to make Wisconsin an economic and job creation leader is to adopt policies that provide more economic freedom and opportunity to all Wisconsin residents such as strengthening BadgerCare, making it possible to refinance student loan debt at lower interest rates and increase the minimum wage.

"If we put more money in the pockets of the real job creators, the workers and their families as opposed to an elite and privileged few, we will see our economy grow, jobs created and greater freedom and opportunity for the people of our state."