

## Weekly Radio Address: "Restoring Economic Opportunity"

Written by Wisconsin Assembly, Laura Smith

Thursday, 19 February 2015 11:54 - Last Updated Thursday, 19 February 2015 12:07

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MADISON – Today Assembly Democratic Leader Peter Barca (D-Kenosha) offered the Democratic Weekly Radio Address. The topic this week is the Assembly Democrats' Economic Opportunity Agenda for the 2015-16 legislative session.

"With Wisconsin lagging most of the nation in job and wage growth and Republicans having created one of the largest budget deficits in the country, it is more important than ever that we work to restore economic opportunity here in Wisconsin," Rep. Barca said. "Our plan would ensure better opportunities for Wisconsin families and workers and make us more competitive in a global economy by helping to create good-paying jobs, increasing wages across the state and connecting workers with available jobs by closing the skills gap."

The audio file of this week's address can be found [here](#) and a video version can be viewed [here](#), or below.

A written transcript of the address is below:

*"As we talk to people around the state, they tell us again and again that they want more economic opportunity – not more politics.*

*"We are approaching one year without any major legislative action on jobs. Yet Republicans' top priorities include removing the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, opening the door for more political corruption and turning our elections watchdog into a partisan lapdog.*

*"With Wisconsin lagging most of the nation in job and wage growth and Republicans having created one of the largest budget deficits in the country, it is more important than ever that we work to restore economic opportunity here in Wisconsin. Having more Wisconsinites working not only helps strengthen families but would also help solve our budget deficit.*

*"Last week, Assembly Democrats put forward our first "15 Bills for 2015" focused on advancing an Economic Opportunity Agenda for the people of Wisconsin.*

*"Our plan would ensure better opportunities for Wisconsin families and workers and make us more competitive in a global economy by helping to create good-paying jobs, increasing wages across the state and connecting workers with available jobs by closing the skills gap.*

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*"And this is just the first step of our agenda aimed at rebuilding Wisconsin's middle class. In the coming weeks, we will introduce more bills designed to create more opportunities for our children to succeed, strengthen our communities – particularly in rural areas – and protect your personal freedoms."*

*"These are ideas that have the support of our citizens – and they deserve to have bipartisan support as well. We hope the governor and Republican legislators will finally join us in passing these bills to start getting Wisconsin back on the right track."*