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Monday, August 11, 2003  
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## **Governor Signs Eight Bills Into Law**

### ***Legislation Will Toughen 'Pay to Play' Restrictions and Ensure Competitive Energy Rates for Wisconsin Citizens***

Governor Jim Doyle today signed into law eight bills, including measures to toughen "Pay to Play" provisions and ensure competitive rates for Wisconsin's energy ratepayers.

#### **AB 1 – "Pay to Play"**

AB 1 will toughen Wisconsin's law banning a person from giving anything of value to a state public official, including a legislator, if it could reasonably be expected to influence the official's vote. The bill makes intentional violation of the law a Class I felony, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$10,000 or imprisonment not to exceed three years and six months, or both.

"This tough new law will help clean up the corruption in Madison," Governor Doyle said. "It is a new day in Wisconsin, and we have to send a clear signal that these kinds of activities will no longer be tolerated. This bill will help restore public faith in government, because the people's business must come first."

#### **SB 194 – Protect Wisconsin Ratepayers**

SB 194 gives Wisconsin's Public Service Commission the ability to authorize the American Transmission Company to withdraw as a member of the Midwest Independent System Operator (MISO) if they determine that this action is in the public interest.

"This new law represents a significant step forward in our efforts to protect Wisconsin's economy by ensuring that we can meet our future energy needs and keep our rates competitive," said Governor Doyle. "I am pleased that Democrats, Republicans, energy producers and consumer groups came together to pass this important new law."

#### **Other bills signed by the Governor:**

- AB 34, relating to including dentists and dental hygienists as health care professionals for the purpose of forming service corporations.
- AB 74, relating to tuition vouchers for students who sound Taps at military honors funerals.

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- SB 77, relating to promissory notes issued by the City of Milwaukee to pay for unfunded prior service liability contributions of the Milwaukee Public Schools under the Wisconsin Retirement System.
- SB 116, relating to a reduction in amount recoverable by a liquidator from a reinsurer.
- SB 117, relating to prohibiting methyl tertiary-butyl ether in automotive gasoline.
- SB 167, relating to extending the expenditure period and the life of a tax incremental district in Sheboygan.