

GARD APPOINTS SELECT COMMITTEE ON JOB CREATION

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MADISON...Assembly Speaker John Gard (R-Peshtigo) today announced formation of an Assembly Select Committee on Job Creation, to finalize proposals for the Legislature's Extraordinary Session on Job Creation. Gard named Representative Jean Hundertmark (R-Clintonville) chair of this select committee.

"Creating jobs continues to be Job One for the Legislature," said Gard. "This committee will ensure that the Job Creation Act of 2003 and other economic development bills before the Legislature get the public scrutiny and necessary refinement to be ready to go when we convene our Extraordinary Session on Jobs in December."

Already this year, the Legislature has passed more bills dealing with economic development and job creation than any other single topic (see attachment). Late in the final scheduled floorperiod, however, consensus began to form around several additional, comprehensive, regulatory reform and capital investment bills. Rather than force these bills through the Legislature with little public hearing or debate, Gard and Senate Majority Leader Mary Panzer (D-West Bend) announced that they would allow instead call the Legislature back into Extraordinary Session in the first week of December to act on the bills.

"This topic is simply too important to rush through a product that was not carefully reviewed by the public and policy-makers alike," said Gard. "If, by forcing the Legislature to put in a little overtime, we can help create more jobs for hardworking Wisconsin families it will be well worth it."

Gard said that the eight-member Select Committee on Job Creation would be charged with holding public hearings and making any necessary modifications to the bills that will be taken up in the extraordinary session. Members of the select committee include: Chair Jean Hundertmark (R-Clintonville), DuWayne Johnsrud (R-Eastman), Glenn Grothman (R-West Bend), Dan Meyer (R-Eagle River), Judy Krawczyk (R-Green Bay), and three Assembly Democrats yet to be appointed by Minority Leader James Kreuser.

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