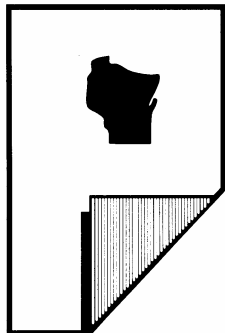


WISCONSIN PAPER COUNCIL

250 N. GREEN BAY ROAD
P.O. BOX 718
NEENAH, WI 54957-0718
PHONE: 920-722-1500
FAX: 920-722-7541
www.wipapercouncil.org



NEWS RELEASE

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For More Information Contact: Pat Schillinger, President
920-722-1500 (work)
920-419-7030 (cell)

Wisconsin Paper Council Praises Governor's Signing of Assembly Bill 508

Neenah – The Wisconsin Paper Council strongly praises Governor Doyle's decision to sign Assembly Bill (AB) 508 into law. Governor Doyle will sign the bill at Georgia-Pacific's East Mill in Green Bay.

AB 508 extends the "carry forward period" for the use of tax credits for sales tax paid on fuel and electricity used in manufacturing, from 15 to 20 years. Its intent is to prevent companies that have accumulated tax credits, from expiring. This bill is a follow up to earlier legislation (Assembly Bill 507) which changes a tax credit for sales taxes on fuel and electricity to a tax exemption. AB 507 was signed by Governor Doyle in December, 2003.

While many large and small manufacturers will benefit from this legislation, paper companies are the most impacted by the legislation. AB 508 was pushed and supported by the Wisconsin Paper Council. It passed the Legislature with overwhelming bi-partisan support.

"We are extremely pleased to have Governor Doyle sign this important piece of legislation for Wisconsin's paper industry," said Patrick Schillinger, President of the Wisconsin Paper Council. "Wisconsin's paper industry is facing severe economic challenges and global competition and anything that can be done to level the playing field here must be done," he said.

"AB 508 represents another positive step forward for the state of Wisconsin as it works to improve its business climate and we appreciate the support the Legislature and Governor have shown," Schillinger said. "We must continue to reform Wisconsin's tax structure, streamline its regulatory processes and bolster the overall business climate."

Wisconsin has been the number one paper making state in the country for the last fifty years. The Wisconsin Paper Council is the trade association of the pulp and paper industry in Wisconsin.

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