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RESTAURANTS SUPPORT LAWSUIT REFORMS

The Wisconsin Restaurant Association today announced their strong support for lawsuit reform initiatives from Governor Scott Walker.

Walker wrote an executive order on Monday, his first day as governor, calling the state legislature into a special session to focus on creating jobs and turning Wisconsin's economy around. Today, he unveiled the part of his plan that focuses on making Wisconsin's civil justice system less of a deterrent to businesses.

"Small businesses are often the targets of frivolous or predatory lawsuits because they can't afford the risk of losing in court, or even the costs of defending themselves in court," said Pete Hanson, Director of Government Relations for the Wisconsin Restaurant Association.

"Governor Walker's tort reform proposal will restore some sanctions for filing baseless lawsuits and some sanity to the civil justice process," Hanson said. "In addition, the Governor's initiatives will make Wisconsin more business-friendly by setting higher standards for punitive damage awards and by holding down health care cost increases driven by lawsuits against health care providers."

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Since 1933, the Wisconsin Restaurant Association has been dedicated to the promotion, protection and improvement of the foodservice industry.