Dear Editor:

Hidden in Governor Jim Doyle’s 1,743-page budget bill are provisions that would reward trial lawyers and severely harm Wisconsin’s economy—something this state can ill-afford during this severe recession.

The provisions give trial lawyers the ability sue any individual who is as little as 1% at fault and potentially force that person to pay 100% of the plaintiff’s damages. Fairness means that our system does not create a second victim by forcing a party minimally at fault to be responsible for 100% of damages because the person most at fault does not have sufficient resources. Yet, that is exactly what the Governor’s provisions would do.

Any person with assets who happens to be involved in accident could lose their entire life savings. If enacted, the provisions will drive businesses out of this state, costing more jobs and further damaging our economy – all to for the sake of rewarding trial lawyers.

Contact your legislator (800-362-9472). Tell them that the last thing we need is more trial lawyers. Instead we need more jobs. Ask your legislator to remove the civil liability provisions from the state budget.

Sincerely,