



State of Wisconsin  
2021 - 2022 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4852/1  
JKS:klm

## 2021 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 95

November 12, 2021 - Introduced by Representatives DITTRICH, HORLACHER, SPIROS, PENTERMAN, ROZAR, WITTKE, KNODL, BRANDTJEN, KITCHENS, MOSES, THIESFELDT, ZIMMERMAN, SUMMERFIELD and CABRAL-GUEVARA, cosponsored by Senators NASS, JAGLER, BALLWEG, JACQUE, BERNIER and FELZKOWSKI. Referred to Committee on Rules.

\*\*\*AUTHORS SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\*\*

1     **Relating to:** recognizing Employment Choice First as a means to preserve the  
2           dignity, self-esteem, and pride of individuals with disabilities in Wisconsin.  
3           Whereas, the citizens of the State of Wisconsin deserve the dignity and freedom  
4     to find work in the place of employment that best reflects their needs and skills; and  
5           Whereas, an individual's employment and work also promote involvement and  
6     fellowship in other community activities; and  
7           Whereas, Employment Choice First is a movement affirming the philosophy  
8     that choice of employment setting is a right of all individuals and that this choice  
9     should be made by the individual; and  
10          Whereas, the mission of Employment Choice First in Wisconsin is to establish  
11     opportunities for all working-age individuals with disabilities in Wisconsin to gain  
12     employment within a setting that meets their individual needs and skills, and to  
13     engage businesses and organizations that value the contributions of employees with  
14     disabilities; and

1           Whereas, Wisconsin state agencies that provide services and support to persons  
2 with disabilities, as well as agencies that provide employment and related services,  
3 should implement Employment Choice First by collaborating to ensure that state  
4 programs, policies, procedures, and funding support a full array of employment  
5 services; and

6           Whereas, implementation of Employment Choice First ensures that individual  
7 preference, interest, and need are the guiding principles of determining appropriate  
8 employment settings; and

9           Whereas, sharing data and information across systems can assist state  
10 agencies in tracking progress toward full implementation of Employment Choice  
11 First; and

12           Whereas, state agencies can adopt measurable goals and objectives to promote  
13 assessment of progress toward full implementation of Employment Choice First;  
14 now, therefore, be it

15           ***Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That*** the State of  
16 Wisconsin recognizes that an individual's choice of employment and work setting  
17 result in tangible and intangible benefits, including the enhancement of  
18 independence and economic self-sufficiency, as well as purpose, dignity, self-esteem,  
19 and a sense of accomplishment and pride; and, be it further

20           ***Resolved, That*** the State of Wisconsin recognizes that a diverse workforce  
21 enriches local communities, promotes a well-rounded working environment, and  
22 enhances economic development; and, be it further

23           ***Resolved, That*** the State of Wisconsin recognizes that all individuals,  
24 including those with disabilities, should have choices with respect to where they seek  
25 employment and professional development; and, be it further

1           ***Resolved, That*** the State of Wisconsin will promote the dignity, self-esteem,  
2           and economic self-sufficiency of working-age individuals with disabilities by  
3           providing access to paid employment aligned with each individual's interests,  
4           desires, and needs.

5

(END)