



EXECUTIVE ORDER #294

Protecting Public Trust and Integrity by Prohibiting State Government Workers from Profiting from Insider Information

WHEREAS, state workers in Wisconsin work hard every day in dedicated service of the people of our state, often going beyond their job description and daily responsibilities to provide services and support to Wisconsinites and our communities to help respond and meet their needs;

WHEREAS, the people of Wisconsin deserve a state government that will continue working to do the right thing for the people and communities we serve while operating with the highest levels of professionalism, ethics, and empathy;

WHEREAS, maintaining public trust and confidence in our state government demands and depends upon transparency, accountability, integrity, and upholding the fundamental tenet of public service in decisions that, above all, the work must be for the benefit of the public good and not for the personal gain or benefit of any individual worker;

WHEREAS, nonpublic information should never be used by state workers for the purpose of pursuing personal gain or advantage or to benefit their family or an organization with which they are associated;

WHEREAS, the recent interest in and rapid growth of prediction markets and event contracts allow individuals to bet money and wager on a wide range of topics, such as governmental actions, sports, contests and award shows, games, elections, politics, global affairs, pop culture, and more;

WHEREAS, a recently reported news article indicated government officials' use of prediction markets is a growing concern across the nation, including, for example, when a U.S. Army Special Forces soldier was arrested and charged with using nonpublic federal government military operation information to profit on a prediction market site, earning nearly \$410,000, which the soldier later tried to conceal;

WHEREAS, Wisconsin continues to maintain the highest standard of public integrity and transparency from its government employees and has robust ethics rules codified in Wisconsin Statute, Chapter 19, Subchapter III, Code of Ethics for Public Officials and Employees; and

WHEREAS, despite the state's robust Code of Ethics, this new and growing concern must be addressed directly, clearly, and independently to underline the importance of existing prohibitions on state employees using nonpublic information to engage in prediction market contracts or betting.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TONY EVERS, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of the State, hereby order the following:

All Wisconsin state executive branch employees are strictly prohibited from disclosing or using any nonpublic information obtained due to their

public service to personally profit from, avoid loss from, or assist another person or entity, including spouses and family members, in profiting or avoiding loss from participation in prediction markets. Any violation of this order may result in dismissal, referral to the Wisconsin Ethics Commission, or other appropriate sanctions and may be referred to law enforcement.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this thirteenth day of May in the year of two thousand twenty-six.

TONY EVERS
Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI
Secretary of State