

## **HYPOCRISY: NO-BID RAIL CONTRACTS**

**Scott Walker's hollow criticism of the Talgo bidding process, which was not awarded to the company of his \$13,000 donor and 2006 gubernatorial co-chair, is even more hypocritical given that Walker voted to create the no-bid statute in the 1997 state budget.**

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### **Walker Voted for Train Bidding Statute He's Railed Against**

Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker offered hollow criticism of the Talgo bidding process after the contract was not awarded to the company of his \$13,000 donor and 2006 gubernatorial co-chair. But what is even more hypocritical is that Walker voted to create the no-bid statute in the 1997 state budget, according to documents obtained by One Wisconsin Now.

If there is a hypocrisy train running out of Milwaukee County, Scott Walker is its conductor. He manufactured baseless charges when his top donor came up short against another Milwaukee company, and he criticized the exact process he voted to create.

The bidding law Walker is criticizing was created in the 1997 biennial budget, Act 27, which passed with the support and vote of then-Rep. Scott Walker and was signed into law by then-Gov. Tommy Thompson. Throughout his legislative career, Walker voted consistently with the Republican majority in passing budget measures and opposing Democratic-offered amendments. In five budgets, Walker approved an 84 percent increase in spending, voting in favor of a total of \$200 billion in state spending.

Scott Walker's blame game needs to begin with one person, Scott Walker. Scott Walker doesn't want his campaign donors to have to play by the same rules Scott Walker and Tommy Thompson created for everyone else.

The statutes allowing the no-bid contracting begin with number 85.06 and are available here: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/statutes/Stat0085.pdf>

The details of Act 27, including the creation of the no-bid process on page 446, are available here: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/1997/data/acts/97Act27.pdf>

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## **Walker's Talgo 'Outrage' Paved with \$150,000 in GOP Contributions from Super Steel Owner**

*Mega-Donor Luber, Wife's Campaign Contributions Include over \$13,000 to Walker*

Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker's criticism related to the Talgo company came just two weeks after the company owned by a top Walker campaign donor and finance co-chair of his failed 2006 gubernatorial campaign did not receive a contract from the Spanish train maker.

Walker's criticism, in which he also leveled charges at Gov. Jim Doyle and Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett, comes immediately after Super Steel, owned by mega-Republican donor Fred Luber, was told it would not receive a Talgo contract. Luber and his wife have given more than \$150,000 to Republican campaigns in the last 20 years, including over \$13,000 to Walker alone. [Federal Election Commission; Wisconsin Campaign Finance Information System; Wisconsin Democracy Campaign]

For Scott Walker, it's not about creating jobs in Milwaukee, but looking out for his biggest campaign donors. First, Walker wanted to bankrupt the state's treasury for tax cuts for corporations and the richest households, and now he's trashed potential job creation in Milwaukee because his former campaign co-chair didn't get a contract.

Super Steel's owner Fred Luber, is also the Chair of the pro-laissez faire capitalism outfit, the Maclver Institute. Both Walker and Luber's Maclver Institute have been staunch opponents of the federal Recovery Act, which provided the \$810 million in funding that in part helped the Talgo train-making in Milwaukee to become a reality.

Walker opposed the Recovery Act, going so far as to pen an op-ed for the ultra-conservative Wall Street Journal editorial page defending his opposition in February 2009. Wisconsin has already had nearly \$3 billion allocated by the Recovery Act for job creation, health care, education, infrastructure and budget support. Over 44,000 Wisconsin jobs have been funded, saved and created by the Recovery Act.

Walker's most recent contribution from Luber and his spouse, as part of the more than \$13,000 donated to Walker, was a \$2,500 contribution in September 2009.

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