



# Tony Evers

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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February 28, 2020

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY:

I am vetoing 2019 Assembly Bill 26 in its entirety.

This bill relates to direct primary care agreements, which is an arrangement where a health care provider agrees to provide primary care services to a patient in exchange for a subscription fee. Under the bill, requirements would be established for a valid direct primary care agreement and valid direct primary care agreements would be exempt from Wisconsin's insurance laws. Originally, the bill would have prohibited a health care provider, when selecting patients for a direct primary care agreement, from discriminating on the basis of age, citizenship status, color, disability, gender, gender identity, genetic information, health status, existence of a preexisting medical condition, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or any other protected class. However, many of these protections were removed by an amendment. The current bill provides that a health care provider would only be prohibited from discriminating based on a preexisting medical condition, health status, age, race, creed, color, sex, or disability.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to the Legislature removing discrimination protections for certain individuals. In addition, I object to allowing a health care provider to choose not to enter into a direct primary care agreement with a patient based on the patient's genetics, national origin, gender identity, citizenship status, or whether the patient is LGBTQ. I believe that all individuals should be treated equally.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Evers  
Governor