March 3, 2020

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE:

I am vetoing 2019 Senate Bill 43 in its entirety.

This bill would allow an organization with a Class B raffle license to conduct a raffle by using a paddlewheel.

I am vetoing this bill because I object to the bill’s expansion of what constitutes a raffle. Such an expansion could threaten the exclusive rights of Tribal Nations to conduct Class III gaming in Wisconsin. The gaming compacts signed by the State of Wisconsin and the Tribes enable revenue-sharing payments from the Tribes to the State. At the same time, the compacts prohibit the State from substantively altering the charitable games authorized by the State and from allowing the operating of an additional Class III game. By expanding the definition of raffles, this bill could be considered a violation of the compacts, which could result in a significant loss of past, current, and future gaming revenue to the State.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Evers
Governor