



Tony Evers

Office of the Governor | State of Wisconsin

August 10, 2021

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE:

I am vetoing Senate Bill 210 in its entirety.

This bill would modify certain election procedures by requiring the distance between election observers and tables where recount activities are occurring to be no more than three feet, would require all observers to wear certain badges, would specify that it is an offense to interfere with a voter in preparing or casting their ballot or hinder an election official, and would specify that it is an offense to intentionally obstruct an observer's access to observe election procedures.

I am vetoing this bill because I object to the reduction of distance between election observers and tables where election activities are occurring. Under current law, election procedures specify that the distance is a minimum of three feet and a maximum of eight feet, which allows observers sufficient proximity to ensure election procedures are being followed correctly and for the local officials to ensure they can provide appropriate viewing areas given the space available without observers getting in the way. Aside from being unnecessary, mandating that election observers be no more than three feet away creates a greater potential for observers to interfere with or intimidate election officials performing their duties, and a practical concern that observers could intrude upon election officials and possibly prevent them from effectively and efficiently carrying out their duties, both of which could degrade the quality of our elections.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Evers".

Tony Evers
Governor