



Tony Evers

Office of the Governor | State of Wisconsin

December 3, 2021

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE:

I am vetoing Senate Bill 503 in its entirety.

This bill would prohibit the Department of Health Services from certifying, and requires the department to decertify by July 1, 2022, any provider under the Medical Assistance program that is a private entity that provides abortion services or is an affiliate of an entity that provides abortion services, with certain exceptions. The bill would also require the department to seek any waiver of federal law, state plan amendment, or other federal approval necessary to implement this prohibition.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to placing restrictions on a patient's access to basic reproductive healthcare. Under current law, government funding cannot be used to provide abortion services. And yet, this bill maliciously seeks to limit healthcare options for people seeking a number of basic, preventative, and life-saving care, such as pre-natal and pregnancy care, cancer screening and prevention, sexually transmitted infection screening and treatment, and wellness exams.

Amid an ongoing pandemic, we should not be limiting options for folks to access basic and necessary care. We should be doing everything we can to ensure every Wisconsinite has access to quality, affordable healthcare, including preventative healthcare.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Tony Evers
Governor