



# Tony Evers

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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April 15, 2022

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE:

I am vetoing Senate Bill 695 in its entirety.

This bill eliminates the limit on the total number of charter schools (six) that may be authorized by the College of Menominee Nation and the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe College (collectively, tribal colleges).

I am vetoing Senate Bill 695 in its entirety because I object to further complicating our school funding system. Currently, funding for students in a tribal college-authorized independent charter school is provided through state General Purpose Revenue and a corresponding state general aid reduction to the resident school district of a child attending such a school. Although the resident school district is allowed to count the student in its membership for revenue limit and state general aid purposes, school districts are typically not fully compensated for the aid reduction in the following year and must levy additional property taxes to replace the full aid reduction to avoid having to reduce their budget. This funding system results in inconsistent financial impacts on property taxes and overall public-school resources with varying relative costs per pupil and relative property value per pupil.

Further, tribal college authorizers are presently legally able to authorize 200 percent more independent charter schools than they operated in the 2021-22 school year without necessitating this legislation, rendering it unnecessary.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tony Evers'.

Tony Evers  
Governor