



Tony Evers

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

April 15, 2022

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE:

I am vetoing Senate Bill 608 in its entirety.

This bill allows students that participated in the Special Needs Scholarship program in the previous year to meet the prior year's attendance requirement to participate in the Wisconsin Parental Choice program or the Racine Parental Choice program. The bill additionally extends the window of time when students may transfer applications across choice programs and allows applications for the Milwaukee Parental Choice program or Racine Parental Choice program to transfer to the Wisconsin Parental Choice program if certain conditions are met. Finally, as drafted last year, the bill opened a window in November 2021 to allow applications submitted prior to April 2021 to transfer between choice programs.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to complicating the movement of students among the state's private choice programs while these programs continue to be funded in a disparate manner and have different requirements. Funding for parental choice programs remains convoluted and inconsistent across programs. Currently, new students enrolling in private schools in the Wisconsin Parental Choice program and Racine Parental Choice program are effectively entirely funded by their resident school district's property taxes through a revenue limit adjustment, but students enrolling in private schools in the Milwaukee Parental Choice program are funded almost entirely by the state. Additionally, the bill continues untimely and obsolete provisions.

Respectfully submitted,


Tony Evers
Governor