



Tony Evers

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

April 15, 2022

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE:

I am vetoing Senate Bill 629 in its entirety.

This bill would require the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation to implement a program to certify active or prospective residential real estate development sites as shovel-ready if such sites meet several criteria. The bill would further require local governments and state agencies to expedite permitting for these shovel-ready projects.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to implementing a program that may detract from existing economic development efforts. While the bill is aimed at improving the availability of workforce housing in the state, it does not ensure that a shovel-ready site would address a particular or even generalized workforce housing need anywhere in the state. The proposed requirements for a minimum number of housing units and a maximum acreage per single-family housing unit, are insufficient to fill gaps in our workforce housing. In fact, the bill provides no means to require that a qualifying site be useful when considered on price or location.

Moreover, I object to requiring the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation to create a program without additional funding, which may force the corporation to shift resources and staffing away from established and tested economic development programs.

Respectfully submitted,


Tony Evers
Governor