

April 15, 2022

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE:

I am vetoing Senate Bill 703 in its entirety.

This bill would clarify the distinctions between an employee versus an independent contractor for motor vehicle operators, where the motor carrier deploys, implements, or uses motor carrier safety improvements.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to Legislature bypassing the Worker's Compensation Advisory Council and the Unemployment Insurance Advisory Council's processes, which play a critical role in recommending changes to current law and that are supported by key stakeholders from both labor and management representatives in their respective industries.

I also object to further weakening the distinction between independent contractors and employees as defined under worker's compensation, unemployment insurance, and equal rights laws. Finally, this bill does not offer any additional protection from fraudulent misclassification of employees or independent contractors.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Evers