

December 5, 2025

To the Honorable Members of the Assembly:

I am vetoing Assembly Bill 308 in its entirety.

Under current law, United States citizens, United States nationals, and certain documented immigrants are eligible to enroll in the Medicaid program. This bill prohibits federal funding passing through or funding from the state or any county, city, village, town, long-term care district, subdivision or agency of the state (or any subdivision or agency of any county, city, village or town) from being authorized for or paid to any person to subsidize, reimburse, or otherwise provide compensation for any healthcare services for any individual who is not lawfully present.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to Republican lawmakers passing legislation they acknowledge is unnecessary to prevent problems they admit do not exist, all for the sake of trying to push polarizing political rhetoric.

As this bill's Republican co-author in the Wisconsin State Assembly plainly stated in the public hearing on this proposal, "Wisconsin currently doesn't allow undocumented immigrants to enroll in BadgerCare." The bill's Republican co-author in the Wisconsin State Senate agreed, offering a similar sentiment to his Assembly counterpart. "Under current law, citizenship is a requirement to enroll in Medicaid and BadgerCare," he testified in a legislative hearing.

Nevertheless, Republican lawmakers in the Wisconsin State Legislature passed this bill anyway, apparently under the guise of being concerned about consequences they themselves acknowledge do not happen in Wisconsin.

These basic but important admissions by its own co-authors underscore that Republicans' decision to pass this bill was more about being inflammatory, stoking fear, and sowing division than it was about accomplishing any significant policy outcome or being prudent stewards of taxpayer dollars. Therefore, I must veto this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Evers Governor