



Tony Evers

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

March 20, 2026

To the Honorable Members of the Senate:

I am vetoing Senate Bill 275 in its entirety.

This bill would require an agency scope statement to specify whether it is intended for a proposed permanent rule or proposed emergency rule. This bill would also require a scope statement for a proposed emergency rule to expire six months after the date on which it was published in the Wisconsin Administrative Register and would prohibit an agency from promulgating an emergency rule based upon the expired scope statement. Additionally, this bill would prohibit an agency from promulgating more than one permanent rule or one emergency rule per scope statement. The bill would first apply to a scope statement published in the Wisconsin Administrative Register on the effective date of the bill.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to the Wisconsin State Legislature's ongoing efforts to encroach on the administrative rulemaking authority of the executive branch. Even before I took office in January 2019, Legislative Republicans spent significant time, energy, and effort attempting to curtail and impede the authority of executive branch state agencies to promulgate administrative rules. Though the Wisconsin Supreme Court recently issued decisions that helped restore the separation of powers in Wisconsin and rebalance rulemaking authority, the Legislature's efforts apparently persist. The Legislature asks me, in effect, to undo this decision, enabling the Legislature to go right back to indefinitely obstructing the People's Work and returning state government to inaction, delays, and gridlock. I decline to do so.

Further, I also object to the Legislature making state government less efficient, less effective, and less responsive to the people of Wisconsin. Ironically, for a Legislature fraught over purported concerns of inefficiency, regulations, and any "growth" of government, the Legislature asks me to sign a bill that will do just that. Instead of working to improve processes, providing the necessary staff and funding for agencies to appropriately implement laws, or working in earnest to pass bipartisan bills containing the necessary clarity for implementation, the Legislature seeks to simply make the rulemaking process as arduous and unworkable as possible. Ultimately, the people of Wisconsin would pay the price.

Shortening the expiration date for scope statements for proposed emergency rules from 30 months to six months while also limiting agencies to promulgating one administrative rule per scope statement could jeopardize the timely promulgation of administrative rules that state agencies and Wisconsin entities rely on and must be updated on a regular basis. If an agency cannot complete the required steps of the emergency rulemaking process, which includes rule drafting and solicitation of public comment, within an abbreviated six-month period, the agency must then return to the beginning of the rulemaking process. The bill would create inefficiencies by forcing



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agencies to spend more time and resources on the regulatory process. I welcome the Legislature to focus its efforts on legislation that decreases costs and delays and improves our services and systems rather than increasing them.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tony Evers".

Tony Evers
Governor