



Tony Evers

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

March 31, 2026

To the Honorable Members of the Assembly:

I am vetoing Assembly Bill 102 in its entirety.

This bill requires University of Wisconsin and technical college institutions to designate athletic teams or sports based on the biological sex of participating students, or as co-ed or mixed sex, and prohibits students of the male biological sex from participating on an athletic team or in a sport designated for females or women, defined as the sex as determined at birth.

My promise has always been that I will veto any bill that makes Wisconsin a less safe, less inclusive, and less welcoming place for LGBTQ people and kids. It has been my honor to keep that promise over the course of two terms as governor, and I am proud to deliver on that promise again today.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to codifying discrimination into state statute and the Wisconsin State Legislature's ongoing efforts to perpetuate hateful and discriminatory rhetoric and policies targeting LGBTQ Wisconsinites, including our transgender and gender nonconforming kids. LGBTQ kids, including transgender and gender nonconforming kids, deserve our love, respect, and support just like any other kid. I restate again today: this type of legislation, and the harmful rhetoric begotten by pursuing it, harms LGBTQ Wisconsinites' and kids' mental health, emboldens anti-LGBTQ harassment, bullying, and violence, and threatens the safety and dignity of LGBTQ Wisconsinites, especially our LGBTQ kids. I will continue to do everything I can and use every power available to me to defend LGBTQ Wisconsinites, protect their rights, and keep them safe.

Finally, and importantly, I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because it fails to comport with our Wisconsin values. We teach our kids to treat each other with kindness, respect, empathy, and compassion—and we expect adults to lead by example. LGBTQ Wisconsinites and Americans should be able to be safe, be treated with dignity and respect, and be welcomed and accepted for who they are without fear of violence, harassment, or persecution. While the federal government and other states across this country may give way to anti-LGBTQ hate, here in Wisconsin, we will continue to decline to do the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Tony Evers
Governor

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