



# Tony Evers

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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April 3, 2026

To the Honorable Members of the Senate:

I am vetoing Senate Bill 622 in its entirety.

This bill would repeal the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection's authority to promulgate rules related to setting, increasing, or creating fees for several programs and codify the existing fee structure for those programs in statute.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to the 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 is asking me, in effect, to undo this section, 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 am also vetoing this bill because I believe the current process relating to rule promulgation and setting, increasing, or creating fees works, including ensuring adequate public input and accountability for agency decisions regarding fees. I am also vetoing this bill because it fails to establish a reasonable and sustainable funding plan for the department. It would not cover annual program costs, nor eliminate the current structural deficit in the programs, resulting in the appropriation operating in a negative cash balance.

Finally, the Legislature plays a critical role in determining whether fee increases will be needed to support programs as they approve agency budgets and has the opportunity to provide GPR funding in order to ensure continuation of services without reliance on fees. To further encourage the Legislature to appropriately exercise its influence in maintaining affordable fees and in an effort to keep fee rates low and provide the necessary resources to the department to perform its statutory duties, I am directing the department to request additional GPR funding in its 2027-29 biennial budget request later this year.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Tony Evers  
Governor

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