



Tony Evers

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

April 3, 2026

To the Honorable Members of the Assembly:

I am vetoing Assembly Bill 460 in its entirety.

Currently, students must meet certain income and prior year attendance requirements to be eligible to participate in the Milwaukee, Racine, or Wisconsin parental choice programs. This bill would exempt students who have a sibling or other dependent family member who is a child and is already participating in one of these choice programs from those eligibility requirements.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to expanding and increasing the costs of private parental choice programs across the state. Funding for private parental choice programs remains convoluted and inconsistent across programs. The cost burden of private parental choice program expansion falls either on local property taxpayers, who already are struggling due to a lack of investment in public schools by the Legislature, or on the state general fund, which draws resources away from students in public schools.

As a former science teacher, principal, superintendent, state superintendent, and a son of the state that created the nation's first-ever private school voucher program, I have spent decades of my life watching the impacts that draining public funds from public schools to fund private voucher school programs instead has had on kids, schools, and public education in Wisconsin. With each passing school year, public school districts continue to endure capped and prorated state funding, strict revenue limits, and the need to go to referenda in many cases just to keep up with inflationary pressures to provide a quality education for their kids. Even now, the Legislature has simultaneously failed to act on my calls to increase funding for special education to ensure the state meets the targets promised in our bipartisan budget.

Public funds should go to public schools. Period. As a state, we have a constitutional obligation to adequately provide for and invest in public education, not continue to expand the private voucher program at the expense of the more than 800,000 public school students across our state. Therefore, I must veto this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tony Evers'.

Tony Evers
Governor