



Tony Evers

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

April 8, 2026

To The Honorable Members of the Assembly:

I am vetoing Assembly Bill 955 in its entirety.

This bill would prohibit any agency from promulgating rules interpreting the provisions of any statute enforced or administered by the agency without explicit and specific statutory authority and would repeal current law granting them that authority. The bill would require agencies to have specific, as well as explicit authority or permission provided for under current law, to promulgate rules in several instances, including to implement any standard, requirement, or threshold.

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 appropriately 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. Therefore, I must veto this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Evers
Governor