

GOVERNOR'S VETO MESSAGE

April 8, 2022

To the Honorable Members of the Assembly:

I am vetoing **Assembly Bill 827** in its entirety.

This bill would mandatorily aggregate the value of property for the purposes of determining a penalty for theft and retail theft if committed by three or more individuals, at the same time, in the same place, and in concert.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to adding duplicative provisions to our criminal code as there are already state laws addressing orchestrated theft. Our criminal code already provides for the aggregation of the value of stolen property where multiple acts of theft are prosecuted as a single count, as well as party to a crime and conspiracy.

Republican and Democrat-controlled states alike have been leading efforts to reform the justice system by using data-driven, evidence-based practices to inform decisions that help keep our communities safe. Unfortunately, the Wisconsin State Legislature persists in working to push our state in the opposite direction. I welcome the opportunity to have meaningful conversations about holding offenders accountable while implementing strategies that can keep our kids, our families, and our communities safe. I remain hopeful the Legislature will join me in this important work.

Respectfully submitted,
TONY EVERS
Governor