

GOVERNOR'S VETO MESSAGE

February 20, 2019

To the Honorable Members of the Assembly:

I am vetoing **2019 Assembly Bill 4** in its entirety, and I am returning it to the Assembly.

The bill would make modifications to the standard deduction under the individual income tax starting with tax years beginning after December 31, 2019.

I am vetoing the bill because I object to passing a major fiscal policy item outside of the biennial budget process, which will begin in less than ten days, especially given that this bill would be unsupported going forward as it relies simply on draining the projected opening balance for the upcoming biennium.

Further, I am troubled and disappointed that this major fiscal policy was introduced and passed without bipartisan support and cooperation. The people of the State of Wisconsin expect and deserve for their leaders to work together, and I plan to do my part to ensure that happens. Going forward in the budget process, I remain committed to working together to balance the many priorities that must be addressed in the upcoming budget, from schools and roads to tax relief and healthcare.

As I have said, I support providing meaningful middle-class tax relief for hardworking Wisconsin individuals and families, and my budget priorities will reflect those intentions. My biennial budget will provide significant tax relief for Wisconsin's middle class in both years of the upcoming biennium, and provide an overall fiscal policy framework to make that relief sustainable into the future, while also making investments in the priorities that the people of Wisconsin share, like providing fair funding for our schools, fixing our roads, and investing in communities across Wisconsin. We can do all these things, if we work together.

Respectfully submitted,
TONY EVERS
Governor