March 31, 2022

The Honorable, the Senate:

I am vetoing Senate Bill 597 in its entirety.

This bill would allow private choice schools to adopt an early admission policy for four-year-old kindergarten, five-year-old kindergarten, and first grade, and to count that child towards choice program membership.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to creating a scenario that would likely increase property taxes. Currently, new students enrolling in private schools in the Wisconsin Parental Choice program and Racine Parental Choice program are effectively entirely funded by local school district’s property taxes through a revenue limit adjustment and reduction, likely resulting in school districts recovering the lost state revenue through increase in their local property taxes.

Respectfully submitted,

TONY EVERS
Governor