GOVERNOR'S VETO MESSAGE

August 8, 2025

To the Honorable Members of the Assembly:

I am vetoing **Assembly Bill 87** in its entirety.

This bill creates additional barriers to restoring an individual's constitutional right to vote based on certain previous criminal convictions. The right to vote is a fundamental core value of our democracy. In Wisconsin, when an individual completes their court-ordered sentence, their constitutional right to vote is restored without any additional barrier or process. This bill would create additional barriers to make it harder for individuals who have completed their sentences to have their right to vote restored. My promise to Wisconsinites has always been that I will not sign legislation that makes it harder for eligible Wisconsinites to cast their ballot. I will continue to keep that promise.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to creating new barriers that could prevent individuals who have completed their court-ordered sentence from having their right to vote restored. I am also vetoing this bill because I object to limiting the discretion of judges to address the circumstances in front of them by creating a separate restitution procedure for certain crimes. I am concerned that this provision of the bill would set a precedent that would elevate some crime victims over others.

I remain steadfast in my support for crime victims and survivors and the services, programs, and providers they need to recover, be successful, and thrive. I will continue to pursue and advocate for the necessary, significant investments they need and deserve. I look forward to working with the Legislature during this legislative session to support crime victims and survivors, reduce recidivism, and improve community safety.

Respectfully submitted,
TONY EVERS
Governor