

GOVERNOR'S VETO MESSAGE

April 15, 2022

To the Honorable Members of the Assembly:

I am vetoing **Assembly Bill 934** in its entirety.

This bill would require the Department of Health Services to promptly remove ineligible individuals from the Medicaid program, prohibit the department from automatically renewing individuals' Medicaid eligibility, require the department to redetermine individuals' Medicaid eligibility every six months, and would prohibit the use of prepopulated forms (except recipient or applicant name and address). In addition, the department would be required to enter into data-sharing agreements for the purpose of confirming eligibility for public assistance programs.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to creating requirements that conflict with federal law. States are already required to renew Medicaid eligibility at least every 12 months and not more than every 12 months and are required to complete administrative renewals whenever possible. In the event the state cannot make a renewal determination on its own or complete an administrative renewal, the state is required to send a pre-printed renewal form to the individual. Additionally, the department is prohibited under federal law from terminating eligibility based on information received directly from data exchanges.

I also object to this bill creating an eligibility condition for the Medicaid program that is more stringent than what is currently allowed under federal law. Unless a state receives explicit authority from the federal government to impose other eligibility rules—which Wisconsin does not have, and it remains unclear whether such a waiver request to the federal government would be approved—individuals who otherwise meet existing eligibility criteria are entitled to these program benefits under federal law.

Respectfully submitted,
TONY EVERS
Governor