

## GOVERNOR'S VETO MESSAGE

April 8, 2022

To the Honorable Members of the Assembly:

I am vetoing **Assembly Bill 967** in its entirety.

This bill requires a school board to include a provision in the authorizing contract of a charter school to allow the charter governing board to open one or more additional charter schools if all of the charter schools operated by the governing board were assigned one of the top two performance categories in the most recent school and school district accountability report published by the Department of Public Instruction.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to the Legislature's attempt to usurp the local authority of elected school board members to decide what conditions must be met for the expansion of a school board-authorized charter school. Charter schools were first authorized in Wisconsin in 1993 and there are currently more than 200 charter schools authorized by school boards in Wisconsin, each with a carefully considered contract to operate. Each of these charter school governing boards may request additional schools if and when their authorizing contract is renewed by their school board, and locally elected decision-makers can then decide if additional schools are in the best interest of their community. We should trust parents, educators, and school districts to work together to do what's best for our kids and what makes sense for their local community. The Legislature's attempt to remove such decision-making authority from local school boards undermines these decisions being made at the local level.

Respectfully submitted,  
*TONY EVERS*  
Governor