

GOVERNOR'S VETO MESSAGE

August 4, 2023

To the Honorable Members of the Assembly:

I am vetoing **Assembly Bill 141** in its entirety.

This bill would prohibit state agencies and local units of government from restricting the use or sale of a device based on the energy source that is used to power the device or that is consumed by the device.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to the Legislature permanently preventing state agencies and local units of government from taking certain steps to limit certain types of devices based on energy source.

As innovative clean energy technologies and industries continue to improve, evolve, and become more competitive, cost efficient, and accessible, we should be working to make it easier, not harder, for our state to meet the needs of a 21st-century infrastructure, workforce, and economy. This bill ignores that basic reality. Signing this bill would not only jeopardize our state's and our communities' ability to meet current and future consumer needs and demands but would also diminish our collective ability to help combat climate change by moving toward new, innovative industries and technology.

Further, I also object to the Legislature's continued efforts to preempt local control and undermine trust in local governments across our state. The state should be a partner in – not an obstacle to – addressing the unique challenges facing our local communities.

Respectfully submitted,
TONY EVERS
Governor