

# STATE OF WISCONSIN

# Senate Journal

## One-Hundred and Sixth Regular Session

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WEDNESDAY, February 28, 2024

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The Chief Clerk made the following entries under the above date.

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### CHIEF CLERK'S ENTRIES

#### AMENDMENTS OFFERED

Senate Substitute Amendment 1 to **Senate Bill 918** offered by Senator Stafsholt.

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#### SENATE ENROLLED PROPOSALS

The Chief Clerk records:

**Senate Bill 447**  
**Senate Bill 586**  
**Senate Bill 633**  
**Senate Bill 654**  
**Senate Bill 688**  
**Senate Bill 707**  
**Senate Bill 780**  
**Senate Bill 792**  
**Senate Bill 981**  
**Senate Joint Resolution 54**  
**Senate Joint Resolution 107**  
**Senate Joint Resolution 117**  
**Senate Joint Resolution 119**

Report correctly enrolled on 2-28-2024.

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#### BILLS PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNOR

The Chief Clerk records:

**Senate Bill 161**  
**Senate Bill 780**  
**Senate Bill 895**  
**Senate Bill 896**

Presented to the Governor on 2-28-2024.

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#### REPORT OF COMMITTEES

The committee on **Economic Development and Technical Colleges** reported and recommended:

##### **Assembly Bill 548**

Relating to: requiring the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation to create the Wisconsin-Ireland Trade Commission.

Concurrence.

Ayes: 6 - Senators Feyen, Stafsholt, Cowles, Pfaff, Knodl and Larson.

Noes: 0 - None.

##### **Senate Bill 883**

Relating to: modifying the certification criteria to be a qualified new business venture.

Senate Substitute Amendment 1 adoption.

Ayes: 6 - Senators Feyen, Stafsholt, Cowles, Pfaff, Knodl and Larson.

Noes: 0 - None.

Passage as amended.

Ayes: 6 - Senators Feyen, Stafsholt, Cowles, Pfaff, Knodl and Larson.

Noes: 0 - None.

*DAN FEYEN*

Chairperson

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#### PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Pursuant to Senate Rule 17 (5), Representatives Wichgers and Gustafson added as coauthors of **Assembly Bill 70**.

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#### State of Wisconsin Office of the Governor

February 28, 2024

The Honorable, the Senate:

The following bill(s), originating in the Senate, have been approved, signed and deposited in the office of the Secretary of State:

<u>Bill Number</u>	<u>Act Number</u>	<u>Date Approved</u>
<b>Senate Bill 1015</b> .....	97 .....	February 28, 2024

(Vetoed in part)

Sincerely,  
*TONY EVERS*  
Governor

Pursuant to s. 35.095 (1)(b), Wisconsin Statutes, the following 2023 Act(s) have been published:

<u>Act Number</u>	<u>Bill Number</u>	<u>Publication Date</u>
<b>Wisconsin Act 97</b> .....	1015 .....	February 29, 2024

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**State of Wisconsin  
Office of the Governor**

February 28, 2024

The Honorable, the Senate:

I have approved **Senate Bill 1015** as 2023 Wisconsin Act 97 and have deposited it in the Office of the Secretary of State. I have exercised the partial veto in sections 1 [as it relates to s. 20.435 (1) (bd)], 2, and 4.

This bill would transfer \$15,000,000 SEG from the state building trust fund to the general fund for fiscal year 2023-24. In addition, the bill would eliminate a \$15,000,000 SEG appropriation for a Building Commission grant made during the 2021-22 fiscal year. Further, the bill would increase the supplemental appropriation to the Joint Committee on Finance by \$15,000,000 GPR for fiscal year 2023-24 to fund grants to support hospital emergency department services. Finally, the bill would create a Department of Health Services appropriation for hospital emergency department services grants.

I am partially vetoing sections 1 [as it relates to s. 20.435 (1) (bd)], 2, and 4 to remove the specific references to emergency department services within the broader category of hospital services. I object to unnecessarily restricting crisis funding intended to address urgent healthcare access needs in Western Wisconsin that exist well beyond hospital emergency departments.

The Hospital Sisters Health System's (HSHS) closure will result in, for example, a disruption of care for patients with ongoing needs, pregnant women, and those with mental health, behavioral health, and substance use disorders, among others. The state's response to this crisis must consider and be responsive to meeting the entire continuum of healthcare services that will be impacted in communities across the region, not just hospital emergency departments. Through my broad, constitutional veto authority, I am ensuring these resources have the flexibility necessary to be used to meet healthcare access needs for Western Wisconsin. These partial vetoes will broaden the scope of the grants, allowing the Department of Health Services to submit a plan for funding any hospital services meeting the area's pressing healthcare access needs. These crisis resources, due to my partial vetoes, will now also be available to support urgent care services, OB-GYN services, in-patient psychiatric services, and mental health and substance abuse services in the Chippewa Valley.

Under **Senate Bill 1015**, which I am approving with partial vetoes today, \$15,000,000 in emergency resources are readily available and now have the flexibility necessary to meet the broader healthcare access needs of the Chippewa Valley region. The Department of Health Services has submitted an official request to the Joint Committee on Finance, asking the Committee to release these funds without delay. I urge the Joint Committee on Finance to work expeditiously to do so.

Respectfully submitted,  
*TONY EVERS*  
Governor

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**State of Wisconsin  
Office of the Governor**

February 28, 2024

The Honorable, the Senate:

I am vetoing Senate Bill 1014 in its entirety.

This bill would specify that the Department of Health Services must award grants to fund one or more health systems that specifically commit to providing hospital emergency department services in Chippewa County or Eau Claire County and agree to use any grant funds specifically for capital expenditures to aid in providing hospital emergency department services in Chippewa County or Eau Claire County. In addition, the bill would specify that the Department of Health Services must prioritize grant awards to support hospital emergency department services in Chippewa County. Finally, the bill would require: (1) health systems receiving grants to report to the Department of Health Services the amount of funding received, a detailed description of all capital expenditures for which the funding was used, and the impact of the funding on the hospital emergency department services; and (2) the Department of Health Services to report to the Legislature a summary of this information.

I am concurrently approving with improvements **Senate Bill 1015**, ensuring \$15,000,000 will be available to meet healthcare access needs for Western Wisconsin with the flexibility necessary to address urgent healthcare access needs that well exceed hospital emergency departments. These partial vetoes will broaden the scope of the grants, allowing the Department of Health Services to submit a plan for funding any hospital services meeting the area's pressing healthcare access needs. These crisis resources, due to my partial vetoes, will now also be available to support urgent care services, OB-GYN services, inpatient psychiatric services, and mental health and substance abuse services in the Chippewa Valley.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to unnecessarily restricting crisis funding intended to address urgent healthcare access needs in Western Wisconsin. The Hospital Sisters Health System's (HSHS) recent closure announcement will result in a disruption of care for patients with ongoing needs, pregnant women, and those with mental health, behavioral health, and substance use disorders, among others. The state's response to this crisis must consider and be responsive to meeting the entire continuum of healthcare services that will be impacted in communities across the region, not just hospital emergency departments.

Under **Senate Bill 1015**, which I approved with partial vetoes today, \$15,000,000 in emergency resources are readily available and now have the flexibility necessary to meet the broader healthcare access needs of the Chippewa

Valley region. The Department of Health Services has submitted an official request to the Joint Committee on Finance, asking the Committee to release these funds without delay. I urge the Joint Committee on Finance to work expeditiously to do so.

Respectfully submitted,  
*TONY EVERS*  
Governor

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**LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU CORRECTIONS**

**CORRECTIONS IN:**

**2023 SENATE BILL 586**

Prepared by the Legislative Reference Bureau

(February 28, 2024)

In enrolling, the following corrections were made:

**1.** Page 10, line 4: delete “statutes” and substitute “statutes, as affected by 2023 Wisconsin Act 51.”

**2.** Page 10, line 5: delete “and (g),” and substitute “(g), and (k),”.

**SENATE AMENDMENT 1,  
TO 2023 SENATE BILL 447**

Prepared by the Legislative Reference Bureau  
(February 27, 2024)

In enrolling, the following correction was made:

**1.** Page 3, line 1: delete “rescue therapy”.