

GOVERNOR'S VETO MESSAGE

March 29, 2024

To the Honorable Members of the Assembly:

I am vetoing **Assembly Bill 1065** in its entirety.

This bill prohibits any University of Wisconsin System institution or Wisconsin Technical College System district board from requiring applicants for admission or financial aid, students, student groups, or faculty to pledge an allegiance to, support for, or opposition to a political ideology or movement, including with respect to diversity, equity, or inclusion, as a condition of admission or financial aid, recognition or funding for a student organization, or certain employment-based considerations (including hiring, performance reviews, promotions, and research approval). Additionally, institutions and district boards may not request or require such pledges and may not grant admission or financial aid, provide recognition or funding for a student organization (or withhold such recognition or funding), or hire, reappoint, or promote faculty on the basis of the viewpoints expressed in such a pledge.

Under current law, no individual may be discriminated against or be denied admission to, or participation, in a higher education institution due to an individual's race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, disability, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy, or marital or parental status. Further, according to the University of Wisconsin System's testimony on the bill, System does not require any systemwide written or spoken loyalty pledge to any political ideology or movement for any employee or student. I am therefore vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to it as duplicative and unnecessary.

Respectfully submitted,
TONY EVERS
Governor