

## News Release

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### Evers statement on AB 469

MADISON — State Superintendent Tony Evers issued a statement today related to the hearing before the Assembly Education Committee on Assembly Bill 469.

“Wisconsin schools are working on a daily basis to give kids a safe and supportive environment to learn. A school community that welcomes all students and treats each and all with equal respect is a recipe for academic success. We live in a state where school districts have widely different demographics and challenges and work locally to provide their students with a safe and respectful school experience.

“I have deep concerns about Assembly Bill 469. The foremost of those is that it undoes the efforts local school districts have made to address accommodations for all students. In school districts across the state, a great deal of time has been spent building relationships with community members and understanding these complex issues from all sides. This bill disregards that important work. Moreover, the approach under this bill contradicts recent federal guidance around Title IX and numerous court rulings regarding access to bathroom facilities.

“This type of legislation is harmful to Wisconsin students and their families. I am proud of the courage of the many families that came forward to share their stories. I am confident that the Legislature will do the right thing and let families and their local schools continue without additional legislative mandates from Madison.”

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**NOTE:** This statement is available electronically at [http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/news-release/dpinr2015\\_116.pdf](http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/news-release/dpinr2015_116.pdf).