



Tony Evers

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

November 20, 2019

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY:

I am vetoing Assembly Bill 76 in its entirety.

This bill would prohibit the Department of Health Services from requiring that an instructional program for nurse aides exceed the minimum number of total training hours and hours of clinical experience required under federal law. State law currently requires programs to be at least 120 hours in length and include 32 hours of clinical experience. Federal law requires programs to be at least 75 hours in length and include 16 hours of clinical experience.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to providing less training for those who care for our state's most vulnerable citizens. Research has shown that higher training standards result in better outcomes for patients, lower staff turnover, and higher job satisfaction. There are better ways to address the shortage of nurse aides than reducing the quality of training programs. That is why I directed the Governor's Task Force on Caregiving with developing strategies to attract and retain a strong direct care workforce.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Evers".

Tony Evers
Governor