



---

# BARBARA DITTRICH

---

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 38<sup>th</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

For Immediate Release  
Contact: Rep. Barbara Dittrich

March 26, 2021  
608-266-8551

## Governor Evers Hurts Wisconsin Kids With Veto

**Madison** – Representative Barbara Dittrich (*R – Oconomowoc*) shared her frustration and disbelief regarding Governor Evers’ veto of Senate Bill 39 which she co-authored with Senator Duey Stroebel (*R – Saukville*). The bill would have allowed virtual charter students the same opportunity that homeschool students already enjoy, the ability to take part in extracurricular activities and interscholastic athletics in their home district.

“Today, Governor Evers made a decision to hurt Wisconsin students by denying them the ability to take part in extracurricular activities and interscholastic athletics within the district they reside. These families pay local property taxes, a portion which stays behind with the home district when the child open enrolls to a virtual charter school. I find this especially disheartening and frustrating in light of the pandemic shutdowns, which have already isolated our kids. His actions today further that isolation, which we have seen lead to increased depression and other mental health issues,” shared Rep. Dittrich

Senate Bill 39 would have expanded provisions to participate in sports and extracurricular activities that are already extended to homeschool students to include charter school students, which are considered part of Wisconsin’s public school systems. Under the bill, virtual charter school students could not be charged fees beyond the same charged to students already enrolled in the school district, which is the same provision already in state law for homeschool students.

“Governor Evers actions will only serve to drive more Wisconsin students out of public schools into homeschool and private schools. Further, he may have opened the state to litigation by favoring certain students over others. Virtual charter students should have the same opportunities as their peers because they ARE public school students. Instead Governor Evers sent a message to parents of virtual charter students that he would rather have parents pay TWO school districts so a child can be afforded the ability to participate in extracurricular activities. Given that many families are suffering financially during this pandemic, his actions seem to be specifically targeted at those attempting to make the best choices for their own children,” said Rep. Dittrich.

Under WI law, charter schools are public schools and receive state funding.

###