

## News Release

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### Assembly blows through voucher cap

MADISON — State Superintendent Tony Evers made a statement today regarding the Wisconsin Assembly’s vote on the 2013-15 state budget that expands private and religious school vouchers by waiving the cap for any student who wants to participate by attending an existing Milwaukee or Racine choice school.

“Today, the State Senate takes up a budget bill that includes a now broken deal to expand vouchers statewide.

“Yesterday, without any advance notice or debate, Assembly Republicans passed a last minute amendment that will increase the cap on statewide vouchers **by 40 percent in each year** of the next biennium, spending an additional \$4.2 million to do it. This means that \$420 million of taxpayers’ money will be supporting private and religious schools in Wisconsin over the next two years.

“The Assembly prioritized private and religious schools again, while passing a budget that has zero increase in categorical aid for students with disabilities, English language learners, smaller class sizes, and small rural schools. This budget is a bad deal for public school students, the middle class, and Wisconsin.”

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**NOTE:** This statement is available electronically at [http://news.dpi.wi.gov/files/eis/pdf/dpinr2013\\_79.pdf](http://news.dpi.wi.gov/files/eis/pdf/dpinr2013_79.pdf).