

WHEREAS; the Tamil language is one of the longest-surviving classical languages in the world and is widely spoken throughout India, Singapore, and Sri Lanka, as well as by many Wisconsin families across the state; and

WHEREAS; members of Wisconsin's Tamil community have made numerous contributions to every aspect of society and play a vital role in keeping Tamil traditions, language, and heritage intact while enriching the state's cultural diversity; and

WHEREAS; each January, members of the Tamil community celebrate Thai Pongal—a four-day harvest festival that coincides with the beginning of the Tamil month called Thai—and the Tamil community of Wisconsin welcomes all Wisconsinites to participate in this year's celebration to experience their rich and inclusive heritage; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins Tamil people across the state in celebrating the vibrant culture and longstanding history of the Tamil community in the state and around the world;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim January 2024 as

## **TAMIL LANGUAGE AND HERITAGE MONTH**

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance  
to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 15th day of December 2023.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State