WHEREAS; blood donation plays an essential role in ensuring that Wisconsin's hospitals and medical centers have a sufficient, readily available blood supply to treat all residents and visitors in the state; and

WHEREAS; blood given through donation can be used holistically or separated into individual components, including red blood cells, platelets, and plasma, which allows for its use in a multitude of treatments, including surgeries, cancer treatment, chronic illnesses, and traumatic injuries; and

WHEREAS; patients need donor blood year-round, and blood donation is particularly important during the winter months, when obstacles such as inclement weather, winter illnesses, and busy holiday schedules may contribute to fewer blood donations; and

WHEREAS; according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, one blood donation has the potential to help save the lives of up to three individuals, underscoring the importance of constantly replenishing the blood supply through donations and community awareness; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin is home to numerous organizations committed to raising awareness about the importance of blood donation, including the American Red Cross, which distributes approximately 40 percent of the nation's blood and blood component supply; and

WHEREAS; on this occasion, the state of Wisconsin thanks all blood donors and encourages individuals across the state to embrace the Wisconsin values of kindness, respect, empathy, and compassion by supporting local blood drives and blood donation efforts this month and throughout the new year;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim January 2025 as

## NATIONAL BLOOD DONOR 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 20th day of December 2024.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State