WHEREAS; radon is a colorless, odorless, radioactive gas that is naturally occurring in rocks, soil, and water and can threaten the health of people across Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States, after cigarette smoking, and the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers, resulting in approximately 21,000 lung cancer deaths each year; and

WHEREAS; according to the U.S. Census Bureau, approximately one-third of housing units in Wisconsin are occupied by renters, many of which are often unaware of ongoing radon exposure in their homes and do not benefit from policies requiring the disclosure of radon test findings upon renting; and

WHEREAS; radon contamination is a pervasive issue in Wisconsin, as radon is found at elevated levels in approximately one in 10 homes across the state; and

WHEREAS; decreasing exposure to radon is a priority highlighted in the Wisconsin Department of Health Services' (DHS) Wisconsin Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan, and as of March 2023, the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) requires licensed child care providers to test and mitigate for radon to protect kids and employees from radon exposure; and

WHEREAS; reducing radon exposure and radon-induced lung cancer in the state can be achieved by empowering all Wisconsinites, including historically underserved communities that all too often bear the greatest burden of poor environmental conditions and related health outcomes, to understand their risk and make informed decisions about radon testing; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins the EPA, DHS, DCF, local health departments, and other public and private sector partners in encouraging residents and business owners to test their homes and buildings for radon, reduce elevated levels of radon, and build with active radon reduction systems;

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

NATIONAL RADON ACTION 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 13th day of December 2024.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State