

WHEREAS; cholangiocarcinoma, also known as bile duct cancer, is a type of cancer that begins in the bile ducts, which are the network of tubes that transport bile through the gallbladder, liver, and small intestine to aid in breaking down fats during digestion; and

WHEREAS; according to the National Cancer Institute, there are several types of cholangiocarcinoma, including perihilar and distal cholangiocarcinoma, which develop outside of the liver and are often referred to collectively as extrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma, as well as intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma, which develops inside the liver; and

WHEREAS; both extrahepatic and intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma are rare types of cancer, with the National Cancer Institute estimating it affects approximately 8,000 people in the United States each year, and while anyone, regardless of age, gender, or background, can develop cholangiocarcinoma, it most often occurs in adults over the age of 65; and

WHEREAS; recognizing the symptoms of cholangiocarcinoma, including jaundice, weight loss, dark urine, abdominal pain, and fever, is critical to early detection, but often, symptoms do not present until cancer reaches late or metastatic stages; and

WHEREAS; cholangiocarcinoma can be treated by surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation, but the delayed onset of symptoms, rarity of the disease, and lack of research and awareness largely impact patients' chances of survival; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins all those who are battling cholangiocarcinoma, those who have lost their lives to the disease, their loved ones, and the state's many dedicated healthcare workers and advocates in spreading awareness, committing to public education, and embracing hope for earlier diagnoses, better treatments, and improved outcomes for patients;

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

## **CHOLANGIOCARCINOMA AWARENESS 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 31st day of January 2025.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State