WHEREAS; observed every year during the first full week in February, National Burn Awareness Week promotes burn safety education and prevention measures to reduce the number of people who suffer from burns each year; and

WHEREAS; according to a 2022 study published by the National Library of Medicine, emergency departments in the United States care for over 400,000 patients with burn-related injuries each year, with approximately 3,275 of these cases resulting in death; and

WHEREAS; most burn injuries occur inside the home, and the primary causes of injury include flames, hot liquids, contact with hot objects, electrical fires, and chemicals; and

WHEREAS; according to the U.S. Fire Administration, there were 47 home fire-related fatalities reported by the news media in Wisconsin in 2024 alone; and

WHEREAS; knowing how to properly recognize, evaluate, and treat burns is crucial, and advances in research and medicine have improved burn care and treatment, aided in rehabilitation, shortened hospital stays, increased burn survival rates, and enhanced aftercare support for the physical and emotional effects of burns survivors endure; and

WHEREAS; the theme of this year's National Burn Awareness Week is "Burn Prevention Where You Live, Work, and Play–Preventing Burns in the Homes," which focuses on raising awareness of burn risks in every living space, including but not limited to the kitchen, bathroom, sleeping areas, storage spaces, and more; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins the American Burn Association, along with burn survivors and burn, fire, and life safety educators, first responders, and researchers across the state, in spreading awareness of the frequency, devastation, and causes of burn injuries, effective preventative measures, and best practices for aftercare of those who are injured;

> NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim February 2 through 8 2025 as

NATIONAL BURN AWARENESS WEEK

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 10th day of January 2025.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State