WHEREAS; observed annually on February 14, National Donor Day highlights the importance of organ, tissue, marrow, platelet, and blood donation to saving lives across the state and country; and

WHEREAS; one blood donation has the potential to help save the lives of up to three patients, and every organ donor can save up to eight lives and impact dozens more; and

WHEREAS; according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, nearly 1,600 Wisconsinites—and more than 100,000 people nationwide—are currently on the national waitlist for an organ transplant; and

WHEREAS; Versiti, UW Health, and LifeSource serve as Wisconsin's designated not-for-profit organ procurement organizations and are charged with providing lifesaving organ and tissue gifts to those in need, promoting the importance of registering organ and tissue donors, and delivering professional education to clinical teams and performance improvement to better serve donor families and hospital partners; and

WHEREAS; every person in Wisconsin, regardless of health or age, can easily register to be an organ, tissue, and eye donor online, by mail, or at their local Division of Motor Vehicles; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin honors the nearly three million registered organ, tissue, and eye donors across the state for their generosity and encourages all eligible Wisconsinites to register as donors, support local blood drives, and give the gift of life through donation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim February 14 2024 as

## NATIONAL DONOR DAY

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 5th day of January 2024.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State