STATE of WISCONSIN



Proclamation

WHEREAS; Angelman syndrome is a rare neurogenetic disorder that primarily impacts the nervous system, affecting approximately one in 15,000 live births or 500,000 people worldwide, according to the Angelman Syndrome Foundation; and

WHEREAS; Angelman syndrome is a spectrum disorder, and affected children and adults can experience a wide range of symptoms, including issues with movement and balance, severe motor and speech impairments, disruptive sleep cycles, microcephaly, seizures, and more; and

WHEREAS; additionally, individuals living with Angelman syndrome often have unique behavioral characteristics, including a happy demeanor, which may include frequent laughing, smiling, and excitability; and

WHEREAS; symptoms of Angelman syndrome may start to appear as an infant, but on average, it can take years to diagnose accurately, and many individuals are often misdiagnosed for conditions that present similarly, underscoring the importance of genetic testing to ensure an accurate and complete diagnosis; and

WHEREAS; individuals living with Angelman syndrome and their families and caretakers often carry a large share of the burden of finding a medical expert, funding research, and raising public awareness to support research and effective and affordable treatments; and

WHEREAS; on this occasion, the state of Wisconsin joins all affected individuals, their loved ones, and dedicated advocates and organizations across the state in spreading awareness of Angelman syndrome, supporting research, and embracing hope for improved treatments and a cure;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim February 15, 2025, as

## **ANGELMAN SYNDROME 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 28th day of January 2025.

JONY EVERS GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI Secretary of State