WHEREAS; according to the Allo Hope Foundation, alloimmunization occurs when an individual's body makes red blood cell antibodies as a result of foreign blood mixing, and hemolytic disease of the fetus and newborn (HDFN) occurs when these antibodies cross the placenta during pregnancy and attack an unborn child; and

WHEREAS; due to its rarity, families affected by alloimmunization and HDFN often experience problems with diagnosis and referral delay, difficulty finding a medical expert, limited access to high-quality care and treatment; and

WHEREAS; the Allo Hope Foundation further states that HDFN can have devastating consequences, including anemia, hyperbilirubinemia (the medical term for high levels of bilirubin, which is released when blood cells are destroyed), and death, but that with close monitoring and timely treatment, babies with HDFN have a very high survival rate; and

WHEREAS; while early detection, prevention, and treatment have increased greatly, further research and advocacy are needed to increase understanding, diagnosis, and awareness; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins affected individuals, families, dedicated advocates, and organizations across the state in working towards increased awareness and greater support for all those affected by alloimmunization and HDFN across the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim March 12 2025 as

ALLOIMMUNIZATION AND HDFN AWARENESS 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 27th day of February 2025.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State