WHEREAS; according to the World Health Organization, tuberculosis (TB) was the second leading cause of infectious mortality worldwide in 2022, and approximately one-quarter of the global population is estimated to have been infected with the bacteria that causes tuberculosis disease; and

WHEREAS; accessing timely evaluation and treatment for tuberculosis disease, as well as encouraging treatment for latent tuberculosis infection with approved regimes, can provide affected individuals with a cure, helping to preserve health and wellness and serving as a successful means of preventing the further spread of disease; and

WHEREAS; despite recent advancements, disparities in tuberculosis persist as communities with structural inequities face reduced or limited access to healthcare and routine screening, creating barriers in the evaluation and treatment of tuberculosis and infections and underscoring the need for increased access to quality healthcare; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin reaffirms its commitment to building a healthcare system that works for everyone and joins survivors of tuberculosis, those who are battling the disease, their loved ones, and the state's many dedicated organizations and advocates, including the Wisconsin Tuberculosis Program within the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, in spreading awareness, committing to public education regarding prevention, testing, and treatment for the disease, and working to eliminate health disparities in Wisconsin;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim March 24 through 30 2024 as

## TUBERCULOSIS 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 15th day of March 2024.	
ΓΟΝΥ EVERS, Governor	
By the Governor:	
SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State	