

WHEREAS; according to the World Health Organization, tuberculosis is one of the leading causes of death from an infectious disease worldwide, and one-quarter of the global population is infected with the bacteria that causes tuberculosis disease; and

WHEREAS; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported that the rate of tuberculosis cases increased in 2024 for the fourth year in a row, with over 10,000 Americans diagnosed with the disease, including nearly 70 Wisconsinites, according to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS); and

WHEREAS; high-risk factors of tuberculosis include coming into close contact with someone infected by the disease or having a weakened immune system as a result of medication or health conditions, such as HIV infection, and the CDC recommends that everyone at higher risk for tuberculosis infection and progression be screened and tested; and

WHEREAS; accessing timely evaluation and treatment for tuberculosis, 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, 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 DHS, 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 22 through 28 2026 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 5th day of March 2026.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State