

# STATE of WISCONSIN



## OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

# Proclamation

*WHEREAS*; every year, Equal Pay Day is observed on the approximate day into the new year that the average woman in the United States must work to earn what a man earned on average in the previous year, highlighting the institutionalized gender wage gap in the United States and across the world; and

*WHEREAS*; a gender wage gap refers to an observed disparity in average annual earnings between full-time workers of different genders, races, or ethnic backgrounds; and

*WHEREAS*; according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average woman working full-time in the United States earned around 83 cents for every dollar made by the average man in 2023, and while great strides have been made to close the gender wage gap, progress has stalled in the past two decades according to the Pew Research Center, with American women only gaining an extra two cents toward equal pay between 2002 and 2022; and

*WHEREAS*; additionally, according to the Pew Research Center, although women in the 21st Century are more likely than men to have graduated from college, the wage gap persists, and in fact, college-educated women are no closer to wage equality with their male counterparts than other women; and

*WHEREAS*; while laws are in place on the state and federal levels prohibiting discrimination in employment and pay based on gender, these disparities persist in large part due to institutionalized discrimination in wages and the types of jobs that women are more likely to hold—which are often among the lowest paid—and women continue to make significantly less on average than their male counterparts working in the same occupations; and

*WHEREAS*; women of color, who experience a wage gap that exists at the intersection of gender, race, and other demographic factors, have long been disproportionately affected by pay inequality, and workers may also experience pay disparities based on sexual orientation or gender identity, which often are not adequately protected by anti-discrimination laws; and

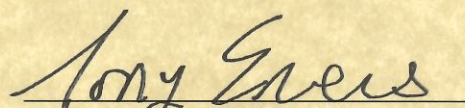
*WHEREAS*; today, the state of Wisconsin affirms the principle of equal pay for equal work and reaffirms its commitment to expanding employment and professional advancement opportunities for women in the state and working towards a more just and equitable economy for all Wisconsinites;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim March 25, 2025, as

## EQUAL PAY 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 7th day  
of March 2025.

  
TONY EVERS  
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

  
SARAH GODLEWSKI  
Secretary of State