

STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; revered first-generation Mexican American civil rights and labor rights activist César Chávez was born in Yuma, Arizona, on March 31, 1927; and

WHEREAS; the Chávez family lost their Arizona farm and relocated to California during the Great Depression in the 1930s, and upon completing eighth grade, Chávez began working full-time as a farmer to help support his family, which served as his first introduction to the hardships and injustices facing farmers—and migrant farmers, in particular—in the United States; and

WHEREAS; after enlisting and spending two years in the United States Navy, Chávez began a career in community organizing, where he coordinated anti-discrimination campaigns and directed voter registration drives in Mexican American communities with the San Jose chapter of the Community Service Organization; and

WHEREAS; in 1962, Chávez and fellow organizer Dolores Huerta co-founded the National Farm Workers Association, now known as the United Farm Workers of America, which is one of the first and most successful farm workers' unions in the history of the country; and

WHEREAS; Chávez spent his entire life organizing nonviolent protests, boycotts, marches, and hunger strikes and successfully secured union contracts that improved working conditions and wages for thousands of migrant farm workers in the United States; and

WHEREAS; following his death on April 23, 1993, Chávez was honored by tens of thousands of mourners, including many of his fellow labor activists, and was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Bill Clinton in 1994; and

WHEREAS; today, on what would have been his 98th birthday, the state of Wisconsin joins all Wisconsinites in reflecting on the life and legacy of César Chávez and celebrates his many important contributions to civil rights, the labor movement, and the political landscape across the country;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim March 31, 2025, as

CÉSAR CHÁVEZ 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 21st day of March 2025.

Tony Evers
TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

Sarah Godlewski
SARAH GODLEWSKI
Secretary of State