WHEREAS; community banks and bankers are committed to the long-term economic well-being of their local residents and communities and are deeply involved in the unique needs, causes, and cultures of the regions they serve; and

WHEREAS; since the early days of Wisconsin's statehood, community banks have served their local communities, helping them to grow and prosper; and

WHEREAS; originally established by residents to support new businesses, employers, farmers, and homeowners, community banks in Wisconsin continue to play a significant role in stimulating local economic development, providing financially sound and reliable support to new and expanding businesses, and assisting in the pursuit of new opportunities and technologies; and

WHEREAS; community banks are among the most well-capitalized and well-managed financial institutions in the country, enabling Wisconsinites and people across the nation to acquire and maintain secure and reliable home mortgages; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin recognizes community banks for their countless contributions to the economic strength and prosperity of local communities across the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim April 2024 as

COMMUNITY BANKING MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

| | nave hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State e at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 11th day of March |
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| TONY EVERS, Governor | |
| By the Governor: | 1 |
| SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretar | y of State |