

WHEREAS; Wisconsin passed its first law regulating child labor in 1867, and subsequent state and federal laws expanded protection of minors, including an 1877 state statute prohibiting children under 12 years of age from employment deemed to be detrimental to their health; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin instituted the first work permit program in 1899, and today, Wisconsin teenagers participate in the labor force at a higher rate than the national average; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin's teens serve as the foundation of the state's future highly skilled workforce, and their early work experiences help build confidence to put them on the path to successful careers; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin continues to improve working conditions through partnerships with the U.S. Department of Labor and various representatives from labor, education, and business entities; and

WHEREAS; the Wisconsin workforce community is committed to continued oversight, while affirming programs that strengthen workforce development and give young people the skills and knowledge to be successful, including Wisconsin's thriving Youth Apprenticeship program, which has seen record participation in recent years; and

WHEREAS; during Welcome to the Workforce Month, the state of Wisconsin joins the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development in continuing the state's efforts to ensure both employers and teens recognize their workplace rights and responsibilities, in celebrating workplace improvements that have increased job safety while expanding opportunities for younger workers, and in recognizing the importance of continuing these efforts to strengthen the state's workforce for this generation and generations to come;

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

WELCOME TO THE WORKFORCE MONTH

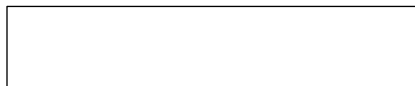
throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance
to all our state's residents.

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 26th day of March 2024.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State