WHEREAS; tornadoes can cause significant devastation to public and private property and have the potential to present a great risk to the safety of everyone in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; severe thunderstorms can produce powerful wind gusts, large hail, flood-producing heavy rains, and dangerous lightning, which can also pose a threat to the safety and property of all Wisconsinites; and

WHEREAS; tornadoes, severe storms, flooding, and strong winds have caused hundreds of millions of dollars in damage to homes, businesses, and local government infrastructure in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; according to the National Weather Service, Wisconsin averages 23 tornadoes annually, with 21 confirmed tornadoes occurring in 2023, and this year, on February 8, the state experienced historic tornado activity in southern Wisconsin, demonstrating that the threat of tornadoes extends well beyond the spring and summer months; and

WHEREAS; Wireless Emergency Alerts, NOAA Weather Radios, and local news outlets are effective means of receiving timely warning information during severe weather; and

WHEREAS; on Thursday, April 11, 2024, Wisconsin residents are participating in a statewide tornado drill at 1:45 p.m. and 6:45 p.m., during which they are encouraged to practice going to their tornado shelter locations and discuss emergency preparedness with their families; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins Wisconsin Emergency Management and its ReadyWisconsin campaign and Wisconsin's National Weather Service offices in spreading awareness of the dangers of tornadoes and other severe weather hazards, as well as the actions all Wisconsinites can take to keep themselves and their families safe;

> NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim April 8 through 12 2024 as

## TORNADO AND SEVERE WEATHER 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 29th day of March 2024.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State