

WHEREAS; the Tamil language is among the longest-surviving classical languages in the world and is widely spoken throughout India, Singapore, and Sri Lanka, as well as by many Wisconsin families across the state; and

WHEREAS; Puthandu, also known as Puthuvarudam or Tamil New Year, is the first day of the year on the Tamil calendar and is traditionally celebrated as a festival; and

WHEREAS; the date of the festival is set with the solar cycle of the lunisolar calendar as the first day of the Tamil month Chithirai, which falls on or around April 14 every year on the Gregorian calendar; and

WHEREAS; on this occasion, Tamil people greet one another by saying “Puthāṇḍu vāazhthugal!” (புத்தாண்டு வாழ்த்துக்கள்) or “Iniya puthaandu nalvāazhthugal!” (இனிய புத்தாண்டு நல்வாழ்த்துக்கள்), which translate to “Happy New Year” in English; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins dedicated organizations, cultural groups, and Tamil people across the state in celebrating the vibrant culture and longstanding history of the Tamil community in Wisconsin, and wishes a happy new year to all who celebrate;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim April 14 2024 as

TAMIL NEW YEAR

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 2nd day of April 2024.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State