

# STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

## Proclamation

*WHEREAS*, according to Johns Hopkins Medicine, irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) is a gastrointestinal disease or condition characterized by recurring abdominal pain, bloating, altered bowel movements, and more; and

*WHEREAS*, research suggests that there are approximately 35 million Americans living with IBS, including many Wisconsinites, however, only a fraction—five to seven percent of individuals—have been formally diagnosed with the disease; and

*WHEREAS*, the chronic and unpredictable nature of IBS can lead to significant psychological distress, including anxiety, stress, and depression, as well as feelings of shame, embarrassment, social isolation, and employment challenges related to their condition; and

*WHEREAS*, while there is no known cure for IBS, an effective and empathetic relationship between patients and coordinated healthcare professionals can work to treat or mediate symptoms through lifestyle and diet changes, mental healthcare, and medication; and

*WHEREAS*, today, the state of Wisconsin joins those impacted by IBS, their families, healthcare professionals, advocates, and organizations across the state in raising awareness of IBS to better understand the disorder, promote research and public understanding, improve patient care and outcomes, and ultimately find a cure;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim April 19, 2026, as

### WORLD IBS DAY

and April 2026 as

### IBS AWARENESS 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 3rd day of April 2026.

*Tony Evers*

TONY EVERS  
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

*Sarah Godlewski*  
SARAH GODLEWSKI  
Secretary of State