WHEREAS; Ehlers-Danlos syndromes (EDS) represent several genetic disorders involving mutations in connective tissue that are characterized by extremely flexible joints and fragile, overly elastic skin; and

WHEREAS; there are various kinds of EDS, and according to Cleveland Clinic, it is estimated that at least one in 5,000 individuals worldwide is affected by some type of the condition; and

WHEREAS; while EDS does not have any known treatment or cure, early and accurate diagnosis helps to allow medical professionals to create life-saving medical plans to ensure a quality of life for people living with EDS; and

WHEREAS; a network of EDS support groups in Wisconsin helps connect those handling life with the syndrome, provides resources to medical professionals, and offers hope and healing to those affected by the condition and their families; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins dedicated advocates and organizations statewide in raising awareness of EDS to hopefully further educate and prompt additional medical research that will lead to the development of treatments and a cure;

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

EHLERS-DANLOS 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 12th day of April 2024.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State