

WHEREAS; from pregnancy to childbirth to postpartum and beyond, ensuring the health and wellness of all mothers and babies in Wisconsin is a priority for the state; and

WHEREAS; despite advances in medical science and technology, pregnancy-related complications and deaths continue to occur at high levels in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; according to DONA International, the world's first, largest, and leading doula-certifying organization, doulas are trained professionals who provide continuous physical, emotional, and informational support to clients before, during, and after childbirth to help them achieve the healthiest, most satisfying experience possible; and

WHEREAS; every Wisconsinite deserves respectful and responsive maternal care, and doulas provide services to uplift and amplify their client's voices in a variety of settings; and

WHEREAS; doulas play an important role in addressing gaps in the perinatal workforce, and research suggests that doulas can reduce birth complications, especially in communities of color, and that their support can help shorten labor duration, decrease the likelihood of cesarean birth and low birth weights, and increase success in breastfeeding; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins advocates, birth workers, medical professionals, and dedicated individuals and organizations across the state in celebrating doulas for their dedicated service to protecting and promoting the health, safety, and overall well-being of Wisconsin mothers and babies;

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

INTERNATIONAL DOULA 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 April 2024.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State