WHEREAS; according to Cleveland Clinic, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, commonly known as ALS or "Lou Gehrig's Disease," is a neurodegenerative condition that affects the nerve cells in an individual's brain and spinal cord, targeting motor neurons that regulate voluntary muscle movements, like the ability to talk, chew, walk, and breathe; and

WHEREAS; while ALS can affect anyone, it is most likely to develop in men and individuals between the ages of 55 and 75, and research indicates that military veterans are at a greater risk; and

WHEREAS; while the exact cause of ALS remains largely unknown, and currently, there are no definitive means of preventing or curing the disease, access to treatment can help delay symptom progression and improve individual's quality of life; and

WHEREAS; access to new therapies, durable medical equipment, and augmentative and alternative communication is of vital importance to people living with ALS, and clinical trials serve as an opportunity to evaluate new treatments and medical breakthroughs; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins individuals affected by ALS, their families, dedicated advocates, and organizations in spreading awareness of and embracing hope for advancements in science and medicine to lead to a deeper understanding of the disease, new treatments to enhance quality of life, and eventually, a cure;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim May 2025 as

## **ALS 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 5th day of May 2025.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State