

WHEREAS; celiac disease is one of the most prevalent genetic autoimmune diseases worldwide, affecting millions of people in the United States—many of whom are undiagnosed; and

WHEREAS; caused by an immune reaction to ingesting gluten, a protein found in wheat, barley, and rye, celiac disease triggers the body to attack its own small intestine, which, over time, damages the intestinal lining and prevents nutrient absorption; and

WHEREAS; according to the Mayo Clinic, symptoms of celiac disease vary widely but may include digestive symptoms, including diarrhea, fatigue, weight loss, bloating, abdominal pain, nausea and vomiting, and constipation, in addition to a range of non-digestive system symptoms; and

WHEREAS; celiac disease has a considerable impact on the body, work practices, and personal relationships, as those living with celiac disease often live in discomfort due to repeated, inconclusive visits to healthcare providers, and it can take years before receiving an accurate diagnosis; and

WHEREAS; celiac disease currently has no definite cure or medication treatment option, with the only existing treatment being a lifelong, strict gluten-free diet; and

WHEREAS; research suggests that many people with celiac disease who adhere to a gluten-free diet nevertheless continue to experience symptoms and intestinal damage, underscoring the need for improved treatments; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins all affected individuals, as well as dedicated advocates and organizations across the state, in spreading awareness of celiac disease in the hopes that advancements in research and medicine will lead to improved treatments and, eventually, a cure;

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

CELIAC DISEASE 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 25th day of April 2025.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State