

WHEREAS; May Day, or International Workers' Day, is a celebration of workers across the world that is observed annually on the first of May; and

WHEREAS; May Day commemorates the efforts of the working classes in the United States and abroad to organize for improved workplace conditions and rights throughout the late 19th century; and

WHEREAS; the beginning of May is a historically significant time of year in the struggle for workers' rights in the United States, and in Wisconsin specifically, as May 5th commemorates the anniversary of a deadly attack on workers' rights demonstrators in the Bay View area of Milwaukee in 1886; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin recognizes that many rights and conventions that are often taken for granted now—such as the eight-hour workday, worker's compensation, and unemployment insurance—are owed to early labor activists, and current challenges that persist across the state and country, such as the gender and racial pay gaps, offer a sobering reminder of the greater progress that must be made to achieve equal rights and fair wages for all workers; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin is home to thousands of union members who are represented in countless trades and industries, and recent victories for unionization efforts across the state have only underscored the critical and continued importance of protecting workers' rights; and

WHEREAS; addressing the evolving needs of the state's workforce, including access to quality, affordable child care, healthcare, housing, and transportation, as well as recruiting, retaining, and training highly skilled workers, is essential to the well-being of the economy and all Wisconsinites; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins all Wisconsinites in celebrating the state's rich history of progressive labor activism and the numerous contributions that all workers make to the state's cultural and economic livelihood;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim May 1 2026 as

MAY DAY

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 23rd day of April 2026.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State