

# STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

## Proclamation

*WHEREAS*; according to a 2016 report from the National Institute of Justice, 84 percent of Indigenous women have experienced violence in their lifetime, with more than half having experienced sexual violence, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report that homicide is a leading cause of death among Indigenous women under the age of 44; and

*WHEREAS*; while there are thousands of reported cases of missing Indigenous women and girls, as of May 2023, the United States Department of Justice only reports 258; and

*WHEREAS*; it is clear that there is an epidemic of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in Wisconsin and across the United States, yet these incidences often go unreported, uninvestigated, or unaddressed; and

*WHEREAS*; while there is still very little data on the true scope of this epidemic, the state recognizes that there have been reported instances of violence towards Indigenous women and girls from the 12 Native Nations in Wisconsin, which is why the state is proud to support the Wisconsin Department of Justice's Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Task Force and their work to help fight the abduction, homicide, violence, and trafficking of Indigenous women and girls in Wisconsin; and

*WHEREAS*; today, as we mourn and call attention to all missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls throughout the state and country, as well as all those who have experienced violence and assault, the state of Wisconsin commemorates the lives of all missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls, standing in solidarity with the families of the victims of these senseless tragedies and resolving to act to prevent further victimization;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim May 5, 2023, as a

## DAY OF AWARENESS FOR MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS

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 19<sup>th</sup> of May 2023.

TONY EVERS  
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

  
SARAH GODLEWSKI  
Secretary of State