

STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine; and

WHEREAS; because of its potency and low manufactured cost, illicit drugs of all kinds now contain illegally produced fentanyl, including heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamine, and it continues to be used at soaring and increasing rates; and

WHEREAS; according to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, more than 1,400 Wisconsinites died from an opioid-related overdose in 2021 alone; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin has proudly supported and advanced several policies to combat substance use and overdose deaths in Wisconsin, including passing legislation to decriminalize fentanyl testing strips, supporting the placement of the emergency narcotic overdose reversal drug, naloxone, in critical spaces, including schools and police stations, investing in increased public supports for those struggling with mental health and substance use challenges, and making deliberate use of the funds received through the national settlement agreement with major pharmaceutical suppliers; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins all those who have been affected by fentanyl use in spreading awareness of the harm that fentanyl can cause and the ways to combat this drug's prevalence in communities, and reminds all Wisconsinites that anyone can save a life by educating themselves on the signs of an overdose, learning how to administer naloxone, and calling 911;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim May 9, 2023, as

FENTANYL AWARENESS 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 19th day of May 2023.

TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLWESKI
Secretary of State