WHEREAS; credit unions are not-for-profit, member-owned cooperatives that provide essential financial services and education to consumers in Wisconsin and around the country; and

WHEREAS; just as the guiding philosophy of the credit union industry is "people helping people," credit unions cooperate and collaborate with one another under the principle of "credit unions helping credit unions"; and

WHEREAS; nearly 2,000 credit unions throughout Wisconsin and across the country cooperate to share their branches and better serve their 65 million members nationwide at more than 5,000 of these shared branches—known as CO-OP Shared Branches—including more than 50 in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; through the power of cooperation, shared branching is the largest branch network among all U.S. financial institutions and the only one with locations in all 50 states; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin credit unions have had shared branches since 1996 to provide greater convenience and to enhance access to financial services to members who travel, relocate, retire, graduate, change jobs, and so much more; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin celebrates shared branching as a symbol of the cooperative spirit of the state's credit unions;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim May 22 through 26 2023 as

## WISCONSIN CREDIT UNION SHARED BRANCHING WEEK

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 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 2023.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State