WHEREAS; preeclampsia, including HELLP (hemolysis, elevated liver enzymes, low platelet count) syndrome and eclampsia, is a condition of pregnancy that can lead to maternal and infant mortality or premature birth with significant health risks for the mother and baby; and

WHEREAS; according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), preeclampsia is estimated to occur in five to seven percent of all pregnancies and is responsible for over 70,000 maternal deaths and 500,000 fetal deaths worldwide; and

WHEREAS; according to the CDC, there are substantial ethnic and racial disparities in the prevalence of preeclampsia, and black women are at higher risk of developing severe preeclampsia due to discrimination and racial bias within healthcare institutions that can affect the quality of care from screening and diagnosis to treatment; and

WHEREAS; public education and increased awareness about the signs and symptoms of preeclampsia, HELLP syndrome, and eclampsia can help women recognize the condition and seek appropriate medical care; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins advocates, birth workers, medical professionals, elected officials, and dedicated individuals, families, and organizations across the state in spreading awareness of maternal health, promoting initiatives to reduce maternal and infant morbidity and mortality, and working to eliminate existing disparities and inequities in Wisconsin's maternal healthcare system;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim May 22 2024 as

## PREECLAMPSIA 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 3rd day of May 2024.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State