WHEREAS; GM1 gangliosidosis is a rare inherited lysosomal disorder characterized by neurodegeneration and a progressive loss of abilities until death; and

WHEREAS; early symptoms of GM1 gangliosidosis vary by type but may include seizures, vision and hearing problems, and muscle weakness; and

WHEREAS; GM1 gangliosidosis can affect people of all ages and can leave kids, adolescents, and adults alike impaired with significant physical and developmental disability; and

WHEREAS; previous research suggests that GM1 gangliosidosis occurs in one in every 100,000 to 200,000 live births, but the disease remains severely under-diagnosed and often misdiagnosed due to a lack of public awareness and visibility; and

WHEREAS; GM1 gangliosidosis has no cure, and early diagnosis is essential to the timely management of clinical complications, genetic counseling, and treatment and therapeutic remedies for affected individuals; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins affected individuals and families, as well as dedicated advocates and organizations across the state, throughout the country, and around the world, in raising awareness of GM1 gangliosidosis to increase the accurate and timely diagnosis of the disorder and encourage research into improved treatments and, ultimately, a cure;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim May 23 2023 as

## INTERNATIONAL GM1 GANGLIOSIDOSIS 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 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 2023.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State