

WHEREAS; while Indigenous people have inhabited this continent and region since time immemorial, the Wisconsin Territory was formed in 1836, and the state of Wisconsin was admitted to the Union on May 29, 1848, as the 30th state; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin comes from the Algonquian language and was adapted from the word “Meskousing,” which has several spellings and meanings and was used by the original Indigenous people who inhabited the area to describe the Wisconsin River that runs 430 miles across the entire state; and

WHEREAS; today, Wisconsin is known as the “Badger State” for the early mining settlers who often burrowed like badgers as they mined; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin is also recognized nationally as “America’s Dairyland” for its proud agricultural and dairy farming history and to celebrate Wisconsin’s contributions as one of the nation’s leading producers of dairy products and top cheese-producing state, accounting for more than a quarter of the nation’s cheese production; and

WHEREAS; the Wisconsin state flag celebrates the state’s proud history, bearing a coat of arms that symbolizes the industries upon which the state’s economic and cultural livelihood was founded, including navigation and maritime, manufacturing, mining, and agriculture, as well as the state’s motto, “Forward”; and

WHEREAS; as a leader in the early labor movements of the 19th century, a champion of scientific research and agricultural innovation, a laboratory of democracy, and the birthplace of the Wisconsin Idea, Wisconsin has made countless contributions to the fabric of the nation and the world in its 178 years of statehood; and

WHEREAS; throughout and beyond 2026 the Year of the Neighbor, Wisconsinites are helpers by nature, often going above and beyond to serve their communities, look out for their neighbors, and exemplify the state’s shared values of kindness, empathy, respect, and compassion during times of both adversity and prosperity, earning them the “Midwest Nice” reputation that is cherished by visitors and residents alike; and

WHEREAS; from its world-famous cheese and world champion sports teams to its vast and valuable natural resources and more than 800 miles of Great Lakes shoreline, there is no shortage of entertainment, natural beauty, and experiences to explore and enjoy in Wisconsin, but what makes the state so uniquely special are the Cheeseheads who call it home; and

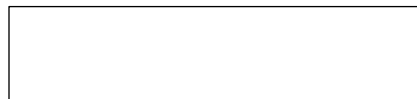
WHEREAS; on the 178th anniversary of Wisconsin’s statehood, the state of Wisconsin joins all Wisconsinites and Wisconsinites at heart in celebrating the state’s rich past, vibrant present, and boundless future, and reaffirms its commitment to continue marching “Forward” together;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim May 29 2026 as

178TH ANNIVERSARY OF WISCONSIN STATEHOOD

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 8th day of May 2026.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State