

WHEREAS; scleroderma is a rare autoimmune and rheumatic disease that affects the skin, connective tissues, and other organs throughout the body of an affected individual, often causing swelling, skin thickening and tightening, shortness of breath, difficulty swallowing, problems with digestion, joint stiffness and pain, pulmonary hypertension, and sensitivity to cold, among other symptoms; and

WHEREAS; according to the National Scleroderma Foundation, approximately 300,000 Americans have scleroderma, the majority of which are female, and while the disease can develop at any age, symptoms most often present in individuals between the ages of 25 and 55; and

WHEREAS; while available treatments can help ease symptoms and improve the quality of life of affected individuals and their families, scleroderma currently has no cure; and

WHEREAS; raising public awareness and providing comprehensive and coordinated health services for people with scleroderma is critically important to addressing the complex health needs of affected individuals and achieving positive patient outcomes; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins affected individuals, their families, and dedicated advocates and organizations across the state in raising awareness of scleroderma and embracing hope for improved treatments and a cure;

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

SCLERODERMA AWARENESS MONTH

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 10th day of May 2024.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State