

WHEREAS; scleroderma, also known as systemic sclerosis, is a group of rare autoimmune diseases that cause excessive production and buildup of collagen in the skin and internal organs, producing scar-like tissue; and

WHEREAS; according to the National Scleroderma Foundation, approximately 300,000 Americans are living with scleroderma, and disparities exist amongst Black Americans and women; and

WHEREAS; while scleroderma can develop at any age, symptoms most often present in individuals between the ages of 30 and 50; and

WHEREAS; according to Cleveland Clinic, scleroderma can affect tissue throughout the body and can lead to life-threatening complications such as kidney failure, pulmonary hypertension, cardiovascular disease, cancer, and more; 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 timely diagnosis; 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 2026 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 8th day of May 2026.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State