

WHEREAS; according to Cleveland Clinic, cranial cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) leak occurs when there is a tear in the membrane around the brain or spinal cord; and

WHEREAS; while the most common symptom is disabling headache that worsens when standing upright, spinal CSF can also cause a wide range of symptoms and serious complications, including hearing loss and ringing in the ears, vision disturbances, memory issues, muscle weakness, pain radiating from the spine, and more; and

WHEREAS; spinal CSF leaks can be caused by certain medical procedures, injuries, or other genetic health conditions, often requiring treatment, which may include epidural blood patches, a lumbar drain, or surgery; and

WHEREAS; spinal CSF leaks are often underdiagnosed and misdiagnosed due to a lack of awareness among healthcare providers, as well as inadequate diagnostic imaging to confirm or locate a spinal CSF leak, which contributes to difficulties in accessing specialized services, proper care, and support for individuals living with spinal CSF leak;

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins affected individuals, their families, and dedicated advocates and organizations across the state in raising awareness and understanding of spinal CSF leaks and in embracing hope for improved research, diagnoses, treatments, and patient outcomes;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim June 1 through 7 2026 as

SPINAL CSF LEAK AWARENESS WEEK

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