WHEREAS; according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), chronic diseases are the leading cause of illness, disability, and death, and more than half of all Americans, including thousands of Wisconsinites, live with at least one chronic health condition, such as cardiovascular disease, stroke, diabetes, cancer, and obesity; and

WHEREAS; further, according to a study published by the National Library of Medicine, chronic diseases have steadily increased due to a nationwide aging population and are estimated to nearly double by 2050 among adults over 50; and

WHEREAS; the combined costs of living with a chronic condition—including medications, treatments, and co-payments—can cause extreme financial hardship and even lead to bankruptcy for individuals and families, and it is estimated that the majority of the nation's \$4.5 trillion in annual healthcare expenditures are for people with chronic diseases, according to the CDC; and

WHEREAS; while most chronic diseases have no cure, many are treatable with appropriate medical care and preventable with proper nutrition, physical activity, healthy lifestyle choices, understanding family health history, getting vaccinated, and regular health screenings; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin recognizes that racial disparities in both chronic disease morbidity and mortality persist statewide and that addressing the systemic factors that lead to poorer health outcomes for marginalized communities is critically important to increasing life expectancy, reducing the burden of healthcare costs, and promoting the health and wellness of every person and community; and

WHEREAS; on this occasion, the state of Wisconsin joins dedicated individuals, organizations, and support groups in spreading awareness of the prevention, intervention, and treatment of chronic diseases and reaffirms its commitment to eliminating barriers to accessible, affordable healthcare and to improving the quality of life of all Wisconsinites;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim July 2025 as

## **CHRONIC DISEASE MONTH**

and July 10 2025 as

## CHRONIC DISEASE DAY

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

	e at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 23rd day of June 2025
TONY EVERS, Governor	
By the Governor:	7

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State