

WHEREAS; it is estimated that more than half of all adult Americans, including thousands of Wisconsinites, live with at least one chronic health condition, such as cardiovascular disease, stroke, diabetes, cancer, and obesity; and

WHEREAS; according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), chronic diseases are the leading cause of illness, disability, and death in the United States, resulting in approximately seven out of ten deaths every year; and

WHEREAS; 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—taking into account 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 annual \$4.5 trillion in 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, 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; today, 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 10 2024 as

CHRONIC DISEASE DAY

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 7th day of June 2024.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State