

WHEREAS; a wage gap refers to an observed disparity in average annual earnings between full-time workers of different genders, races, or ethnic backgrounds; and

WHEREAS; while laws are in place on the state and federal levels prohibiting discrimination in employment and pay based on gender, these disparities persist in large part due to institutionalized discrimination, and women of color, experiencing a wage gap that intersects gender and race, are disproportionately affected; and

WHEREAS; while the average woman in the United States working full-time earned around 83 cents for every dollar made by the average man, research suggests that Black women make approximately 65 cents for every dollar made by white, non-Hispanic men once this gap is broken down by race and gender; and

WHEREAS; Black women have historically had the highest labor force participation among American women and, even today, Black mothers are the most likely to be the primary or sole providers for their families; and

WHEREAS; achieving equal pay for Black women and increasing their representation in high-wage jobs is essential to the prosperity of Wisconsin’s families, communities, and overall economy; and

WHEREAS; every year, Black Women’s Equal Pay Day is observed on the approximate day into the new year that a Black woman must work in order to earn what a white, non-Hispanic man earned on average in the previous year; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin reaffirms its commitment to the principle of equal pay for equal work, expanding employment and professional advancement opportunities for Black women, and working towards a more just and equitable economy and society;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim July 21 2026 as

BLACK WOMEN’S EQUAL PAY 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 23rd day of July 2026.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State