WHEREAS; characterized by the presence of a hole in the abdominal wall of a developing fetus, gastroschisis is a condition that causes intestinal growth outside of the body; and

WHEREAS; according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, it is estimated that approximately one in every 2,400 babies in the United States are born with gastroschisis; and

WHEREAS; the exact cause of gastroschisis is relatively unknown, and risk factors, such as young mothers, alcohol or tobacco use, or genitourinary infections, may increase fetal development of gastroschisis; and

WHEREAS; while infants born with gastroschisis often undergo corrective surgery soon after birth, many experience serious lifelong complications, including short bowel syndrome, feeding and digestive issues, and multiple organ transplants; and

WHEREAS; it is important to recognize that the families of infants born with gastroschisis often encounter a variety of problems outside of the condition itself, such as a sense of isolation and difficulties obtaining timely diagnoses, finding appropriate treatment options, and affording the few treatments that do exist; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins affected individuals, families, and dedicated advocates and organizations in spreading awareness, promoting research, and honoring all those who are living with or who have lost their lives to gastroschisis;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim July 30 2024 as

## GASTROSCHISIS AWARENESS 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 19th day of June 202-
TONY EVERS, Governor	
By the Governor:	٦
SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretar	y of State