WHEREAS; hunting and shooting sports are part of the rich history, culture, and traditions of Wisconsin, and hundreds of thousands of Wisconsinites of all ages participate in hunting and shooting sports every year; and

WHEREAS; shooting sports include, but are not limited to, archery, trapshooting, hunting, and biathlon, many of which are competed from the local to the Olympic level; and

WHEREAS; every year, individuals engaged in hunting and shooting sports contribute millions of dollars in funding for wildlife and conservation efforts through the Pittman-Robertson excise tax levied on firearms and ammunition; and

WHEREAS; increasing access to education and shooting sports provides all Wisconsinites with the opportunity to safely learn to shoot and is essential to responsible public participation in hunting and shooting sports; and

WHEREAS; the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is responsible for the sound management and conservation of wildlife and teaches principles of ethical hunting, firearms safety, and responsible firearm use, in addition to providing safe places to shoot at department managed shooting ranges across the state; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins the DNR and all Wisconsinites who are engaged in hunting and shooting sports in recognizing these activities enjoyed by many and in continuing to promote a culture of safety, responsibility, and environmental stewardship;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim August 2023 as

WISCONSIN SHOOTING SPORTS MONTH

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 21st day of July 2023.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State