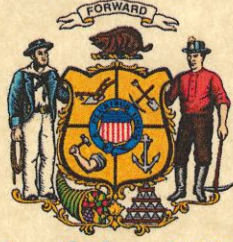# STATE of WISCONSIN

OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; founded in 2004 by Frederick E. Jordan Sr. and John William Templeton, National Black Business Month is observed every year to recognize the vital contributions of Black-owned businesses across the country and to encourage their continued development and success; and

WHEREAS; according to the U.S. Small Business Administration Office of Advocacy, in 2019, there were more than 3.5 million Black-owned businesses in the United States, generating more than 1.2 million jobs and over $200 billion in revenue; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin is home to thousands of Black-owned businesses that provide family-supporting jobs and careers to individuals across the state and are essential for local communities, economies, and cultures to flourish; and

WHEREAS; promoting and supporting Black-owned businesses is a critical step in supporting representation, diversity, and inclusion across a multitude of industries and addressing the racial wealth gap that persists in the state and in the country and is rooted in centuries of institutionalized forms of social and economic oppression; and

WHEREAS; this month and year-round, the state of Wisconsin encourages all Wisconsinites to support Black-owned businesses in their communities and joins all chambers of commerce, Business Improvement Districts, and business associations in working towards the inclusion and empowerment of Black entrepreneurs, reducing barriers to capital, training, technical assistance, and more, and promoting the success of Black-owned businesses statewide;

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

NATIONAL BLACK BUSINESS 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 14th day of July 2025.

TONY EVERS
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI
Secretary of State