WHEREAS; the Purple Heart is an American military decoration that was first established as the Badge of Military Merit by President George Washington on August 7, 1782, during his leadership of the Continental Army in the Revolutionary War; and

WHEREAS; since World War I, the Purple Heart has been awarded directly or posthumously to members of the United States Armed Forces who have been wounded or killed in armed conflict, have been held as prisoners of war, or as otherwise designated by the President of the United States; and

WHEREAS; the Purple Heart is the oldest American military award that continues to be issued, and this year marks the 241st anniversary of the Purple Heart award and the 91st anniversary of the Military Order of the Purple Heart; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin honors all Purple Heart recipients and their families for their selflessness and sacrifice in service to our country;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim August 7 2023 as

PURPLE HEART 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 28th day of July 2023.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State