

WHEREAS; women of all backgrounds have altered the trajectory of every aspect of society, yet for far too long, the achievements of women—and women of color, especially—have been minimized, ignored, and overlooked; and

WHEREAS; celebrated each year on August 26th in recognition of the certification of the 19th amendment, which granted millions of women throughout the country the right to vote, Women’s Equality Day is an opportunity for all individuals to recognize women’s leadership in the fight for equal rights and social justice for all; and

WHEREAS; women have long been at the center of efforts to pursue social and political change in society, from the Suffrage Movement of the late 19th and early 20th centuries and the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 60s to the Equal Pay Act of 1963 and the passage of Title IX in 1972 to contemporary efforts to defend access to reproductive healthcare and address sexual harassment and violence against women, and so much more; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin has proudly been at the forefront of women’s equality movements as the first state to ratify the 19th Amendment in 1919, however, discrimination and violence based on gender—intersected by race, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other social factors—persist today, particularly in the context of recent, continued threats toward access to reproductive healthcare in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade* in 2022; and

WHEREAS; while this day honors the generations of women who have blazed trails, broken glass ceilings, and fought for a more just and equitable world and celebrates the substantial progress made, the state reaffirms its commitment to working towards equality and justice for all people, including ensuring meaningful access to the ballot box, fair opportunity in education and employment, equal pay in the workforce, and safe, supportive communities across the state; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins all Wisconsinites in reflecting on the legacies of the women who have broken barriers, overcome systemic obstacles, and demanded a better, more equitable, and more just state and country for all;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim August 26 2023 as

## **WOMEN’S EQUALITY 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 9th day of August 2023.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State