WHEREAS; ovarian cancer is the deadliest of all gynecologic cancers, and the risk of developing ovarian cancer increases with age; and

WHEREAS; research suggests that, on average, there are approximately 20,000 new cases of ovarian cancer diagnosed in the United States annually, with roughly 400 of those cases being in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; ovarian cancer does not always present early symptoms, meaning that a diagnosis often does not occur until the disease has reached an advanced stage, at which point it may have spread to other parts of the body, causing a greater threat to an individual's health; and

WHEREAS; according to the American Cancer Society, when detected early, the five-year survival rate of patients with ovarian cancer is more than 90 percent, but few ovarian cancers are diagnosed at this early stage, and the five-year survival rate for late-stage ovarian cancer can be as low as 30 percent; and

WHEREAS; while a mammogram can detect breast cancer and a pap smear can detect cervical cancer, there is no reliable early detection test for ovarian cancer, and an increased public awareness of ovarian cancer is needed to foster early intervention; and

WHEREAS; often warning signs—abdominal bloating, increased feeling of fullness when eating, weight loss, pelvic discomfort, fatigue, and back pain—are incorrectly attributed to more common maladies; and

WHEREAS; lives can be saved through increased public awareness of ovarian cancer and its risk factors, signs, and symptoms; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins all those who are battling ovarian cancer, those who have lost their lives to the disease, their loved ones, and Wisconsin's many dedicated healthcare workers and advocates in spreading awareness and embracing hope that advancements in science and medicine will soon lead to a deeper understanding of the disease, earlier diagnoses, and new treatments to enhance individual's quality of life;

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

OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS 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 9th day of August 2024.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State