WHEREAS; Lake Michigan and Lake Superior contribute to the quality of life of all Wisconsinites, creating jobs and stimulating the state's economy, providing drinking water, offering outdoor recreation opportunities and scenic beauty, and supporting agricultural production; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin's coastline—with its many ports, harbors, marinas, and working waterfronts—drives economic growth by connecting Wisconsin to the national and global economy; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin remains committed to promoting environmental literacy, increasing public access, and encouraging the sustainable use of coastal resources throughout the state's approximately 800 miles of Great Lakes shoreline for the benefit of all residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin is home to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)-designated Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary, which provides an exciting opportunity to build upon the state's legacy of maritime trade and navigation while highlighting Wisconsin's unique and vibrant coastal communities; and

WHEREAS; headquartered in Milwaukee, Coast Guard Sector Lake Michigan is comprised of 18 Small Boat Stations, two Aids to Navigation Stations, one Marine Safety Unit, one Marine Safety Detachment, and one Sector Field Office that are responsible for more than 1,600 miles of shoreline and roughly 19,000 square miles of surface water in and along four states; and

WHEREAS; for more than 40 years, the Wisconsin Department of Administration's Coastal Management Program has worked with the Wisconsin Coastal Management Council, as well as local, Tribal, and federal governments, state agencies, organizations, and businesses, to protect and enhance Wisconsin's Great Lakes shoreline and resources; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins all Wisconsinites in recognizing the partnership and collaboration between the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program and Wisconsin's coastal communities and organizations as their leadership and contributions continue to promote, enhance, and protect the Great Lakes and Wisconsin's coasts;

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

## **COASTAL 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 16th day of August 2024.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State