WHEREAS; Wisconsin's Great Lakes and coastal communities contribute to the quality of life of all Wisconsinites, creating jobs and stimulating the state's economy, providing drinking water, sustaining wildlife and local ecosystems, offering outdoor recreation opportunities and scenic beauty, supporting agricultural production, and enhancing statewide tourism; 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, visitors, and future generations; and

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

WHEREAS; for 47 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 this year it is estimated that more than \$1.2 million in grants will be administered to assist with 31 projects across the 15 coastal counties to cultivate resilient communities equipped to protect coastal ecosystems; 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 2025 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 2025. | at the Capitol in the | City of Madison this | 26th day of August |
|--|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
|  |                       |                      |                    |
| TONY EVERS, Governor                   |                       |                      |                    |
| By the Governor:                       |                       |                      |                    |
|  |                       |                      |                    |

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State