

WHEREAS; chronic pain refers to any pain that lasts for longer than three months, and may include arthritis, joint pain, back pain, pain from cancer, fibromyalgia, headaches, neck pain, or nerve pain; and

WHEREAS; chronic pain is a major public health challenge affecting roughly a quarter of the U.S. adult population, with approximately 8.5 percent experiencing high-impact chronic pain that significantly limits daily life or work activities on most days; and

WHEREAS; symptoms of chronic pain can vary greatly from person to person, but often individuals experiencing chronic pain describe aching, burning, shooting, squeezing, stiff, stinging, or throbbing feelings; and

WHEREAS; while chronic pain has no single cure, it can often be improved or resolved through a combination of medication, therapy, and lifestyle changes aimed at treating the underlying condition or mitigating painful symptoms; and

WHEREAS; educating patients, the public, and healthcare professionals about the complexities of chronic pain validates those living with pain, decreases the stigma for those seeking care, and helps advocate for better access to effective treatment protocols, resulting in better patient outcomes; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins dedicated individuals, organizations, and healthcare providers in spreading awareness of chronic pain and reaffirms its commitment to eliminating barriers to accessible, affordable healthcare and to improving the quality of life of all Wisconsinites;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim September 2026 as

PAIN 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 26th day of August 2026.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State