

WHEREAS; spinal cord injury (SCI) refers to an injury to the spinal cord resulting in temporary or permanent changes in the spinal cord’s motor, sensory, or autonomic function, and those who sustain spinal cord injuries often face permanent and profound neurologic deficits and accompanying paralysis; and

WHEREAS; according to the World Health Organization, most SCI cases are due to trauma, including falls, road traffic injuries, or violence, and are thus preventable, however, damage to the spinal cord can also stem from non-traumatic causes like tumors, degenerative and vascular diseases, infections, and more; and

WHEREAS; while approximately 300,000 individuals in the United States are living with spinal cord injuries, including many in Wisconsin, each SCI is unique, and the extent of SCI-related impairment depends on injury severity and location on the spinal cord; and

WHEREAS; SCI can diminish the capacity to perform daily activities, and individuals who have sustained an SCI, as well as their loved ones, may face challenges as they adjust, including financial difficulties, job-related struggles, lack of support, and isolation; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins all Wisconsinites in honoring the strength and resilience of individuals living with spinal cord injury, supporting their families and caregivers, and acknowledging ongoing efforts to support prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and research for a cure;

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

**NATIONAL SPINAL CORD INJURY 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 24th day of September 2026.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State