

WHEREAS; first celebrated on September 5, 1882, in New York City, Labor Day was created to recognize the achievements, contributions, and significance of the American workforce; and

WHEREAS; in 1884, the American Federation of Labor selected the first Monday in September for its annual observance, and in 1894, the United States Congress formally established Labor Day as a legal holiday, initiating a tradition of paid time off for many American workers; and

WHEREAS; throughout the nation’s history, workers and labor unions have contributed to vastly improved standards of work and living, the tremendous productivity of the American economy, and the expansion of political democracy seen across the country; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin has a long tradition of being at the forefront of workers’ rights activism, and many of the rights and conventions that are often taken for granted now—such as the eight-hour workday, worker’s compensation, and unemployment insurance—are owed to early labor activists, and current challenges that persist throughout the state and country, such as the gender and racial pay gaps, offer a sobering reminder of the greater progress that must be made to achieve equal rights and fair wages for all workers; and

WHEREAS; Labor Day presents all Wisconsinites with the opportunity to celebrate and honor the resilience and dedication of workers and working families across the state and country and to reflect on the contributions of the labor movement—past and present—and the benefits of strong labor unions; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin reaffirms its commitment to ensuring that workers in all trades and industries are treated with respect and dignity, paid fairly, and receive recognition for their important work, and commends all workers and working families for their numerous contributions to the state’s cultural and economic livelihood;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim September 4 2023 as

## **LABOR DAY**

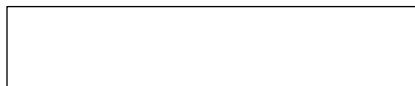
throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance  
to all our state’s residents.

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 29th day of August 2023.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State