WHEREAS; for generations, immigrants and refugees from every corner of the globe have made the United States and Wisconsin their home, bringing with them fresh, new ideas, supporting and strengthening the workforce and economy, and helping to form and enrich the unique and diverse character of the state and nation; and

WHEREAS; throughout history, immigrants and refugees have made important and unique social, economic, and cultural contributions to society, and the role of these communities in building and enhancing the nation should not be overlooked or undervalued; and

WHEREAS; during Welcoming Week, Wisconsinites are reminded of the state's shared values of kindness, empathy, respect, and compassion and that a welcoming and inclusive community is a benefit to all who call it home; and

WHEREAS; this week is also an opportunity to recognize the courage and devotion of individuals seeking to obtain or who have obtained naturalized citizenship status, which affords individuals the privileges and responsibilities of U.S.-born citizens and signals acceptance, belonging, and stability; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin is proud to honor the spirit of unity by rejecting all forms of hate and prejudice against immigrants and refugees and by encouraging all Wisconsinites to take action to make the state a more welcoming and inclusive place for all;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim September 13 through 22 2024 as

## **WELCOMING WEEK**

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

|                            | ave hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 28th day of August |
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| TONY EVERS, Governor       |   |
| By the Governor:           |   |
| SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary | of State  |