WHEREAS; nutrition status is a reliable indicator of overall health, and sufficient nutrition is an effective tool to keep people healthy, reduce costs associated with healthcare, and improve quality of life; and

WHEREAS; malnutrition occurs when an individual's nutritional needs are unmet or imbalanced, whether through undernutrition or overnutrition, and can cause challenges that impact patient health outcomes, including recovery from illness, injury, surgery, or disease; and

WHEREAS; malnutrition disproportionately affects vulnerable populations, including aging and older adults, low-income individuals, children, and communities of color, and these populations also experience the highest rates of some of the most severe chronic illnesses that are impacted by nutrition, such as diabetes, kidney disease, cancer, and cardiovascular disease; and

WHEREAS; combating the prevalence of malnutrition requires incorporating screening, assessment, diagnosis, and intervention across the continuum of care, as well as addressing the presence of food deserts—which occur when individuals do not have reasonably convenient access to nutritious food sources, like supermarkets and grocery stores—in communities across the state and highlighting the importance of reliable access to high-quality, affordable, and nutritious food options; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins local, state, and national partners, as well as the many key nutritional stakeholders across the nation, in affirming nutrition as a human right and working to increase awareness of, reduce, and prevent malnutrition in Wisconsin;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim September 14 through 18 2026 as

MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK

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 4th day of September 2026.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State