WHEREAS; the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed into law in 1990, codifying protections against discrimination for individuals with disabilities, requiring employers to provide reasonable accommodations, and establishing accessibility requirements in public places; and

WHEREAS; while the ADA was an important first step, discriminatory practices and barriers to accessibility continue to negatively affect the lives of individuals with disabilities in Wisconsin and across the country, including their rights to vote and have equal access to the ballot box; and

WHEREAS; the disability community has a critical and continued interest in the enactment of policies at the local, state, and national levels that advance the inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of public life, and the involvement of the disability community in crafting public policy is essential to ensure these policies accurately reflect and adequately meet the needs of people with disabilities in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; voting is an essential way for individuals with disabilities to exert their influence on policies at every level of government, yet widespread voter suppression and disenfranchisement persist and overwhelmingly target historically marginalized groups, including the disability community; and

WHEREAS; making voting accessible for people of all abilities—whether that is by making sure that every polling place is fully accessible and equipped with accessible voting machines, providing accessible and reliable transportation to polling places, offering options for automatic voter registration, or expanding mail-in and absentee voting options—is vital to protecting the voting rights of all Americans and ensuring the success of democracy nationwide; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins dedicated disability rights organizations and advocates from across the state in working to secure the accessibility of polling places and the voting process, encouraging voter registration and vote casting, and furthering the participation of all Wisconsinites with disabilities in the full electoral process;

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

NATIONAL DISABILITY VOTING RIGHTS 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 10th day of September 2026.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State