

WHEREAS; according to the National Institutes of Health, mitochondrial diseases are a group of genetic conditions that cause defects in mitochondria, the energy producers found inside almost all cells in the body; and

WHEREAS; mitochondria are responsible for 90 percent of an individual’s energy production, and when insufficient energy is produced, organs can be adversely affected—including the brain, nerves, muscles, kidneys, heart, liver, eyes, ears, pancreas, and more; and

WHEREAS; Cleveland Clinic states that an estimated one in 5,000 individuals has some form of mitochondrial disease, but due to their complexity, patients often remain undiagnosed or misdiagnosed; and

WHEREAS; symptoms may include seizures, migraines, vision loss, muscle weakness, and developmental delays, and while available treatments can help ease symptoms, slow disease progression, and improve the quality of life, mitochondrial disease currently has no cure; and

WHEREAS; as scientific linkages between mitochondrial dysfunction and diseases like Alzheimer’s, Parkinson’s, and diabetes continue to be explored, bringing together patients, medical professionals, and resources to make progress on therapies and cures has never been more urgent; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins affected individuals, families, healthcare providers, and dedicated advocates and organizations across the state in spreading awareness of mitochondrial disease in the hope that further research and medical advancements will soon lead to a better understanding of the condition, improved treatments, quicker diagnoses, and a cure;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim September 15 through 21 2025 as

**WORLD MITOCHONDRIAL DISEASE 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 2nd day of September 2025.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State