WHEREAS; for nearly 40 years, Hispanic Heritage Month has been celebrated across the United States to recognize the countless social, cultural, economic, and historical contributions of United States residents who trace their roots to Spain, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and the Spanish-speaking nations of Central America, South America, and the Caribbean; and

WHEREAS; Hispanic Heritage Month begins annually on September 15 in honor of the independence days of five Central American countries, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, and spans 31 days, further encompassing the independence days of Mexico, Chile, and Belize; and

WHEREAS; the most recent data from the United States Census Bureau estimates that Hispanic residents make up approximately one-fifth of the United States population, and Hispanics and Latinos make up an estimated eight percent of Wisconsin's population, composing the second-largest racial or ethnic group in the country and the fastest-growing constituency within the state; and

WHEREAS; Hispanic Wisconsinites continuously strengthen local economies and communities through entrepreneurship and contributions to the arts, industry, government, education, healthcare, and more; and

WHEREAS; Hispanic leaders have also been, and continue to be, prominent voices in many of the nation's social and political movements, advocating for issues that affect the Hispanic community—including education, housing, economic prosperity, civil rights, and immigration reform—and throughout the 20th century, in particular, were critical players in the efforts to promote equity and opportunity for students and to advance labor rights and protections for workers; and

WHEREAS; hate, injustice, and anti-Hispanic rhetoric and fear in all its forms must be dispelled through education, awareness, and meaningful action so that Hispanic communities across Wisconsin and the nation can continue to thrive; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin is home to a vibrant and growing Hispanic community, and this month, the state of Wisconsin joins the many organizations across the state that work tirelessly to advance the economic and social interests of the Hispanic community in reflecting on the cultural heritage, collective resilience, and countless contributions of Hispanic Wisconsinites to the state and country;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim September 15 through October 15 2026 as

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

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