

WHEREAS; Wisconsin has long been a leader in supporting safety programs at highway-rail grade crossings and continues to prioritize the systematic review of crossings to assess safety, develop strategy, and find solutions that will mitigate potential danger; and

WHEREAS; despite their preventability, railroad crashes are often more severe than highway collisions and are 20 times more likely to result in death or serious injury, according to the Federal Railroad Administration; and

WHEREAS; while significant progress has been made in informing the public about incidents and fatalities related to dangerous behavior around railway tracks, greater public awareness of safety at railroad crossings is needed to save lives and prevent injuries; and

WHEREAS; Rail Safety Week is observed every September to raise public awareness of the potential dangers at highway-rail grade crossings and of trespassing on railroad property; and

WHEREAS; practicing rail safety—which includes avoiding tunnels, bridges, and trestles designed solely for trains, keeping in mind that trains appear to be further away and moving slower than they are, and not trespassing on railway property—can save lives; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins Operation Lifesaver, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, and the Office of the Commissioner of Railroads in reminding all Wisconsinites of the importance of being smart and safe around railway property;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim September 18 through 24 2023 as

## **WISCONSIN RAIL SAFETY 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 8th day of September 2023.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State