WHEREAS; for more than two decades, the third Friday of September has been set aside as Prisoners of War-Missing in Action (POW-MIA) Recognition Day across the state, in conjunction with the federal observance; and

WHEREAS; POW-MIA Recognition Day honors the sacrifices of the United States service members—including all those from Wisconsin—who were held or continue to be held in captivity as prisoners of war while on active duty and those who were or are missing in action; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin commends the profound courage and determination required of all active service members and veterans and honors the remarkable bravery and resilience of POW-MIA service members as well as the sacrifices of their family members, friends, and loved ones; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin commemorates the nation's prisoners of war and missing in action service members by flying the black and white POW-MIA flag over the North wing of the State Capitol Building year-round; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins veterans service organizations across the state and country, along with the families and friends of POW-MIA service members, in recognizing the service and sacrifice of all prisoners of war and in supporting the federal government's efforts to recover the thousands of service members who remain missing, so as to honor their contributions and bring comfort and closure to their loved ones and communities;

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

PRISONERS OF WAR–MISSING IN ACTION RECOGNITION DAY

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 16th day of September 2026.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State