WHEREAS; Wisconsin has a rich tradition of hunting and angling that originates with traditional Indigenous practices and recreational usage; and

WHEREAS; core to Wisconsin's culture and identity, hunting and angling offer individuals opportunities to connect with nature, provide food security and a sense of self-sufficiency, and promote both mental and physical health benefits; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin's sporting enthusiasts were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to conserve fish, wildlife, and their habitat; and

WHEREAS; through license fees and self-imposed excise taxes on resources like firearms, ammunition, fishing tackle, and boat fuels, Wisconsin's hunters and anglers help fund the efforts of the DNR, generating millions of dollars for the agency's conservation efforts each year; and

WHEREAS; established in 1972, National Hunting and Fishing Day serves as an opportunity to recognize and celebrate hunters and anglers across the state and country for their efforts in fish and wildlife conservation, as well as to increase participation and awareness in hunting, shooting, and angling; and

WHEREAS; in 2024, Wisconsin's outdoor recreation industry contributed a record-breaking $12 billion to the state's gross domestic product, with the statewide hunting/shooting and boating/fishing industries contributing roughly $378 million and $1 billion, respectively, with both industries contributing to the livelihoods of thousands of individuals, boosting statewide tourism, and creating small business opportunities in communities throughout the state; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins all Wisconsinites in celebrating the state's hunters and anglers and the many social, cultural, economic, and ecological benefits of these time-honored traditions;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim September 26 2026 as

NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING 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