WHEREAS; a diverse and dynamic manufacturing industry is critical to Wisconsin's economic prosperity, as the industry employs approximately 486,000 Wisconsinites, accounts for nearly 19 percent of the state's gross domestic product, and generates roughly \$66 billion in economic output, according to the National Association of Manufacturers; and

WHEREAS; government agencies and partnering organizations play a key role in supporting Wisconsin manufacturing by advocating for worker's rights, ensuring workplace safety, and providing skill-building opportunities for people statewide, including individuals with disabilities, justice-involved individuals, and other folks who might otherwise struggle to enter the workforce; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin supports the manufacturing sector through collaborative workforce training programs, including the state's Registered Apprenticeship program, which achieved a new state record with over 15,900 participants in 2022; and

WHEREAS; government, K-12, and post-secondary institutions also deliver industry-driven training through Wisconsin's Youth Apprenticeship program, which had a record participation of 8,357 students working with 5,719 employers across the state during the 2022-2023 school year, including over 1,500 students working with 825 Wisconsin manufacturers; and

WHEREAS; in further efforts to encourage the long-term success of Wisconsin's manufacturing industry, the state has supported several programs and initiatives through the Workforce Innovation Grant Program targeted specifically to help individuals gain the skills, education, and training to pursue successful careers in manufacturing; and

WHEREAS; this occasion serves as a reminder of the numerous contributions of Wisconsin's manufacturing businesses and talent development resources, as well as of the strength and continued growth of the manufacturing community in the state; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin reaffirms its commitment to supporting the growth, prosperity, and economic advancement of all workers, employers, and job seekers in the manufacturing industry and to helping future generations explore career opportunities in manufacturing;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim October 6 2023 as

## MANUFACTURING DAY

and October 2023 as

## MANUFACTURING MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance to all our state's residents.

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State