

WHEREAS; every year during the month of October, National Disability Employment Awareness Month is observed throughout the state to recognize the vital role that Wisconsinites with disabilities play in supporting and enhancing the state’s economy; and

WHEREAS; while the Americans with Disabilities Act requires employers to provide reasonable accommodations, the disability community still faces pervasive barriers to quality employment across the state and country; and

WHEREAS; embracing the skills, talents, abilities, and perspectives of all people, including people with disabilities, is critical to building a diverse and inclusive workforce; and

WHEREAS; the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), through the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD), has helped thousands of individuals with disabilities reach their employment goals through targeted services aligned with each individual’s needs and collaborates with employers across the state to ensure people with disabilities have the opportunity to find quality jobs, grow in their positions, and advance in their careers; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin continually seeks to implement innovative approaches that help individuals with disabilities find and maintain meaningful employment, including Project SEARCH, which has provided workforce training to thousands of individuals with disabilities since the program began during the 2008–2009 school year; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins DWD in celebrating the critical role that workers with disabilities play in strengthening the state’s workforce and economy and in reaffirming its commitment to fostering an environment that encourages and promotes self-sufficiency, independent living, and equitable employment opportunities for Wisconsinites of all abilities;

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

**NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT
AWARENESS 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 25th day of September 2023.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State