WHEREAS; Hinduism is one of the largest religions in the world, with more than one billion followers worldwide, including several million in the United States; and

WHEREAS; Hindus represent one of the world's oldest civilizations as well as one of the newest and fastest-growing immigrant communities in the United States; and

WHEREAS; Hindu heritage, culture, traditions, and values can provide guidance through many of life's challenges and often serve as a source of inspiration, reflection, and contemplation for the individuals who follow the spiritual teachings of Hinduism; and

WHEREAS; Sanskrit, a classical language of ancient India and South Asia, is the language of one of the world's oldest sacred scriptures, the Rig Veda, which is thought to have been composed as early as 1500 B.C.E.; and

WHEREAS; guided by a belief in promoting knowledge and education through dialogue, discourse, and debate, Hindu Americans have made significant contributions to all aspects of society—from science and medicine to business, politics, and industry—all while working towards a more peaceful, diverse, and inclusive world for all; and

WHEREAS; during the month of October, many individuals in the Hindu American community in Wisconsin and across the United States will collectively celebrate their heritage, traditions, culture, history, spiritual values, achievements, diversity, and contributions; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins the vibrant Hindu American community, along with dedicated groups and organizations across the state, in recognizing the community's tremendous and innumerable contributions to the rich fabric of the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim October 2024 as

HINDU RECOGNITION AND HERITAGE 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 4th day of October 2024.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State