

WHEREAS; fire departments in the United States responded to 338,000 home fires in 2021 alone, according to the National Fire Protection Association, and those fires caused over 2,800 civilian deaths; and

WHEREAS; two in every five home fires begin in the kitchen, with many fires stemming from unattended cooking, and many fires can result in injury, especially when victims attempt to control the fire themselves; and

WHEREAS; using safe fire practices, including turning pot handles towards the back of stoves, having lids nearby when cooking, maintaining a three-foot kid-free zone surrounding hot appliances, and setting timers for cooking foods can help prevent fires; and

WHEREAS; working smoke alarms can cut the risk of a home fire fatality in half, and households that have practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will be more likely to survive in the event of a home fire; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin residents should ensure that all members of their household are familiar with the sounds of their smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and understand how to respond, and should make sure that emergency alarms meet the needs of all members of the household, including those with physical or sensory disabilities; and

WHEREAS; the theme of this year’s Fire Prevention Week, “Cooking safety starts with YOU. Pay attention to fire prevention™,” serves as a reminder to use caution when cooking to reduce the risk of kitchen fires; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin commends first responders across the state who are dedicated to reducing home fires and home fire injuries and fatalities through prevention and protection education and encourages all Wisconsin residents to take steps to improve their fire safety practices, especially in their homes;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim October 8 through 14, 2023 as

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

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 2023.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State