

# STATE of WISCONSIN



## OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

# Proclamation

*WHEREAS*; hundreds of thousands of Wisconsinites identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and/or queer (LGBTQ); and

*WHEREAS*; members of the LGBTQ community live in every corner of the state, hold positions in every sector of the economy, and make essential contributions to the history, culture, and rich fabric of society; and

*WHEREAS*; coming out, which is the public self-acknowledgment of belonging to the LGBTQ community, is recognized by many as a significant life experience; and

*WHEREAS*; coming out can serve as a turning point for many people, transforming the loneliness and self-denial that can come with concealing one's identity into the fulfillment of being true to oneself and claiming dignity, empowerment, and self-respect, as well as support from others; and

*WHEREAS*; founded in 1988 to celebrate the anniversary of the second National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, National Coming Out Day is observed every year on October 11 as a day of self-affirmation and awareness of LGBTQ issues; and

*WHEREAS*; generations of LGBTQ Wisconsinites and LGBTQ Americans have worked to overcome seemingly insurmountable challenges and adversity, combating social stigma, demanding visibility and representation, and demonstrating incredible resilience and joy; and

*WHEREAS*; while the state has taken critical steps toward achieving true equality for all Wisconsinites, we must continue to affirm and defend the rights of LGBTQ individuals and work to ensure that all LGBTQ-identified family members, friends, and neighbors—and transgender individuals and LGBTQ people of color, in particular—are treated equitably and with dignity under the law in Wisconsin and across the country; and

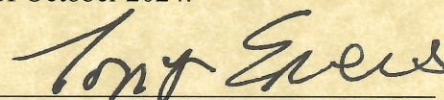
*WHEREAS*; today, the state of Wisconsin joins community advocates and organizations across the state in reaffirming that every Wisconsinite deserves to stand boldly in their truth without fear of persecution, judgment, or discrimination;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim October 11, 2024, as

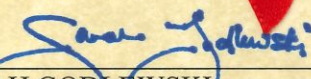
## NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY

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 4th day  
of October 2024.

  
TONY EVERS  
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

  
SARAH GODLEWSKI  
Secretary of State