WHEREAS; on October 6, 1964, the United States Congress designated October 15 as White Cane Safety Day; and

WHEREAS; according to data from the United States Census Bureau, blindness and severe visual impairment affect more than 100,000 Wisconsinites across the state; and

WHEREAS; the majority of these individuals use travel aids, such as a white cane or a service animal, to navigate public streets, sidewalks, and other places of public accommodation; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin's White Cane Law requires that motorists come to a full stop before approaching closer than 10 feet to a pedestrian who is using a white cane or service animal; and

WHEREAS; greater awareness of the White Cane Law, careful driving, and fully stopping leads to the enhanced safety of all pedestrians, including children, elders, and people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin reaffirms its commitment to upholding the White Cane Law and expanding services that promote the safety, dignity, and mobility of Wisconsinites of all abilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim October 15 2023 as

## WHITE CANE SAFETY 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 29th day of September 2023.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State