

WHEREAS; with origins dating back thousands of years, hemp is considered one of the oldest cultivated fiber crops in the world; and

WHEREAS; in the first half of the 20th century, Wisconsin was one of the nation’s leading producers of hemp, even producing fiber for the federal government to utilize during the World Wars; and

WHEREAS; the 2014 Farm Bill authorized Wisconsin to create an industrial hemp research pilot program to issue grower and processor licenses, and in January 2022, this program began its transition to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Domestic Hemp Production Program; and

WHEREAS; with the passage of the 2018 Farm Bill and the removal of hemp from the federal Controlled Substances Act, there has been a monumental shift in the opportunities for the growth and production of hemp in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; as the crop transitions to USDA regulation as a more conventional agricultural commodity, growers and processors alike remain excited about hemp’s potential in agriculture, textiles, recycling and bioplastics, food and beverages, construction and industrial materials, and personal care products, among others; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin recognizes and celebrates its long and proud history of pioneering research, education, innovation, and industrialization of hemp and pledges to continue to be a strong partner of the USDA in supporting the hemp industry and welcoming a new era of hemp growing, processing, and product development in Wisconsin;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim October 18 2023 as

**WISCONSIN HEMP 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 16th day of October 2023.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State