

WHEREAS; distracted driving refers to driving while doing another activity that takes one’s attention away from driving, whether visually, manually, and/or cognitively, including driving while using a cell phone; and

WHEREAS; distracted driving is one of the leading causes of motor vehicle crashes in the United States, and according to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT), distracted driving was a factor in 9,677 crashes and 39 deaths in Wisconsin last year; and

WHEREAS; approximately 12.5 percent of Wisconsin drivers reported not wearing their seat belts in 2022, and 168 Wisconsinites were killed when they were not buckled up; and

WHEREAS; two of the most important actions that a driver can take to prevent or survive a motor vehicle crash include wearing a seat belt and not using a cell phone while driving; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin affirms its commitment to reducing the number of crashes on Wisconsin roads through public safety campaigns and law enforcement efforts that raise awareness of the dangers of distracted driving; and

WHEREAS; WisDOT is encouraging safe driving practices with their “Buckle Up Phone Down” campaign, urging every person to fasten their seatbelt and put down their phone; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins WisDOT in calling on all Wisconsinites to make responsible driving decisions and join the Buckle Up Phone Down campaign;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim October 23 2023 as

BUCKLE UP PHONE DOWN 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 6th day of October 2023.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State