WHEREAS; according to the World Health Organization, asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) are two of the most common types of chronic respiratory diseases; and

WHEREAS; asthma affects an estimated 363 million people across the globe, and COPD is one of the leading causes of death worldwide, underscoring the far-reaching effects of these diseases and the importance of the work done by respiratory care practitioners; and

WHEREAS; among other responsibilities, Wisconsin's respiratory care practitioners manage ventilators in intensive care units, perform cardiopulmonary function tests used to diagnose lung and heart disease, and provide patient education and smoking cessation counseling; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin celebrates the respiratory care practitioners working across the state for their dedication to patient care and their numerous contributions to the well-being of all Wisconsinites;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim October 25 through 31 2026 as

RESPIRATORY CARE 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 22nd day of October 2026.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State