WHEREAS; distracted driving refers to driving while doing another activity that takes your attention away from driving, whether visually, manually, 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), it was a factor in 9,049 crashes, causing 3,659 injuries and 31 deaths in Wisconsin last year; and

WHEREAS; WisDOT further estimates that in 2025, nearly 150 Wisconsinites were killed when they were not buckled up; and

WHEREAS; two of the most important actions 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 the road 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 the Buckle Up Phone Down campaign, calling on every person to take action before driving a vehicle by fastening their seat belt and putting down their phone; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim October 28 2026 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 19th day of October 2026.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State