WHEREAS; thousands of Wisconsinites experience homelessness, with an estimated more than 4,700 individuals experiencing homelessness in Wisconsin in 2022, according to a report by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and

WHEREAS; individuals experiencing homelessness in Wisconsin include families, veterans, unaccompanied homeless youth, and chronically homeless individuals; and

WHEREAS; homelessness is a complex, systemic issue, which is why Wisconsin is proud to support and advance initiatives to promote increased housing security, affordable housing availability, and homelessness shelter services in communities across the state, as well as invest in helping individuals with housing and utility costs to ensure that families can stay in their homes and keep the lights and heat on; and

WHEREAS; the Governor's Interagency Council on Homelessness also works throughout the year to understand the housing challenges facing the state and the scope of homelessness in communities while providing comprehensive, evidence-based recommendations to prevent and end homelessness statewide; and

WHEREAS; every person deserves to have their basic needs met, and ensuring that every Wisconsinite has a safe and stable home is key to ensuring the health and well-being of individuals and communities; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins committed individuals and organizations throughout the state in recognizing the systemic issues that drive homelessness and in taking bold steps to meaningfully address housing insecurity in the state;

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

HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS MONTH

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