WHEREAS; regardless of age, background, income, or ZIP code, every Wisconsinite deserves the opportunity to access a high-quality and affordable education, from early childhood to the state's public, private, and technical college and university systems; and

WHEREAS; as the cost of higher education continues to rise and outpace the rate of inflation and median household income growth, students and their families are faced with the ever-increasing burden of paying for their education; and

WHEREAS; many communities provide scholarship opportunities through local schools, clubs and organizations, faith-based institutions, and employers, and the state of Wisconsin strives to assist students and families with identifying and accessing available resources; and

WHEREAS; students are encouraged to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) and apply for scholarships early because scholarship eligibility is often based simply on the completion of a FAFSA®; and

WHEREAS; the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions (DFI) provides Wisconsin's students, parents, and educators with information about the Wisconsin 529 College Savings Program and college affordability, including free resources to help plan for college, address student debt; and

WHEREAS; guidance on financial aid options—including grants, scholarships, loan programs, tuition reciprocity agreements, and tuition capitation contracts—is also available through the Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB); and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins DFI, HEAB, and the National Scholarship Providers Association in a national campaign to raise awareness of the vital role that scholarships play in reducing student loan debt and expanding access to higher education;

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

## NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP 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 2023.	e at the Capitol is	n the City of M	adison this	16th day o	f October
TONY EVERS, Governor					
By the Governor:					
SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary	y of State				