WHEREAS; Wisconsin's family caregivers and direct care workforce play a critical role in the state's long-term care industry, providing support and services that promote the well-being and enhance the quality of life of some of the state's most vulnerable populations, including kids, individuals with disabilities, and older adults; and

WHEREAS; family caregivers across the United States perform a variety of essential and often complex tasks, including meal preparation, bathing, dressing, medication management, service coordination, financial assistance, transportation, and various medical or nursing tasks; and

WHEREAS; like many sectors across the state and country, the paid direct care workforce in Wisconsin is facing a hiring and retention crisis that negatively impacts the ability of families across the state to obtain the care they need, which has resulted in more family members providing unpaid care to loved ones; and

WHEREAS; many family caregivers often struggle to meet their own personal, financial, and occupational needs, as well as the needs of others in their households, and they, too, require support to stay well and be healthy; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin's family caregivers have gone above and beyond to serve individuals in their care, often reducing hours at work, taking lower-paying jobs that offer more flexibility to provide care, or leaving the workforce entirely to care for loved ones; and

WHEREAS; resources and services to support family caregivers are available statewide through the Wisconsin Department of Health Services and local aging and disability resource centers, and on this occasion, the state of Wisconsin reaffirms its commitment to expanding these supports and ensuring that all Wisconsinites who depend on the services of family caregivers have access to affordable, quality care that allows them to live with dignity and respect; and

WHEREAS; this month provides all Wisconsinites with the opportunity to celebrate family caregivers across the state for their innumerable contributions and personal sacrifices in service to the health and well-being of friends, family members, and loved ones;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim November 2026 as

NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS 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 29th day of October 2026.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State