WHEREAS; Native Americans have inhabited this continent and region since time immemorial and have contributed significantly to the growth, prosperity, and identity of the state of Wisconsin and the United States from before its inception to the present day; and

WHEREAS; the 2020 U.S. Census reports that 9.7 million people across the country identify as American Indian and Alaska Native, and according to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, there are currently 575 federally recognized Native Nations; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin is home to 12 Native Nations, including the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Forest County Potawatomi, Ho-Chunk Nation, Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, Oneida Nation, Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Sokaogon Chippewa Community, Mole Lake Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians, and Brothertown Indian Nation, and has been home to countless Indigenous leaders who have defended the land, protected the water, and championed Native rights, sovereignty, and prosperity for generations; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin recognizes the centuries of colonization, exploitation, violence, trauma, and systemic racism that Indigenous peoples have long endured at the hands of the state and federal government and reaffirms its commitment to respecting the individual sovereignty, culture, heritage, and treaty rights of each Native Nation; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin celebrates the incredible resilience of the Native Nations and Indigenous peoples throughout the state who have preserved their unique cultures, languages, and traditions and who continue to make valuable cultural and economic contributions, including by serving as major employers that grow regional economies and give back to local communities, as well as being leaders at all levels of government; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins the 12 Native Nations in Wisconsin in celebrating Native American Heritage Month and encourages all Wisconsinites to learn about Native American history, including the rich and diverse cultures, languages, and traditions unique to each Tribe, and to recognize the countless contemporary contributions of Native Americans in Wisconsin and across the country;

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

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE 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