

WHEREAS; blood donation plays an essential role in ensuring that Wisconsin's hospitals and medical centers have a readily available blood supply in order to treat all residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS; donating blood is particularly important during the winter months, when obstacles such as inclement weather, winter illnesses, and busy holiday schedules may contribute to fewer blood donations; and

WHEREAS; only around three percent of age-eligible Americans donate blood every year, although it is necessary to note that less than 38 percent of the United States population is eligible, due in part to discriminatory policies at the federal level that continue to bar many LGBTQ Americans—and gay men, in particular—from donating blood; and

WHEREAS; this year especially, as the coronavirus pandemic continues to present significant challenges to our healthcare delivery system, we recognize the importance of blood donation to the health and well-being of patients in hospitals and medical centers across our state; and

WHEREAS; a sufficient blood supply is a public health priority, both locally and nationally, and donating blood has never been more critical, as one blood donation has the potential to help save the lives of up to three patients, underscoring the importance of constantly replenishing our blood supply through donations and community awareness; and

WHEREAS; the American Red Cross, which distributes approximately 40 percent of our nation's blood supply, is currently facing an emergency blood and platelet shortage with historic lows that threaten to cause delays and disruptions in the delivery of essential health services; and

WHEREAS; on this occasion, the state of Wisconsin thanks all blood donors and encourages folks across our state to embody our Wisconsin values of kindness, respect, empathy, and compassion by supporting local blood drives and blood donation efforts this month and throughout the new year;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim January 2022 as

NATIONAL BLOOD DONOR 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 X day of Month 2021.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State