

WHEREAS; producing and consuming cheese is a critical part of the state’s history, culture, and economy, and it is a central part of what it means to be a Wisconsinite; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin’s more than 1,200 licensed cheesemakers produce cheese in over 600 varieties, nearly double the versatility of production of other states; and

WHEREAS; according to the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), in 2021, approximately one out of every four pounds of cheese nationwide was produced by Wisconsin cheesemakers, who produced a total of 3.47 billion pounds of cheese, including 877 million pounds of specialty cheeses; and

WHEREAS; based on data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, if Wisconsin were a country, it would rank fourth in total cheese production in the world, behind the rest of the United States, Germany, and France; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin is also home to the “Cheese Capital of the World” in Plymouth, where it is estimated that up to 15 percent of cheese produced in the United States is processed and sold; and

WHEREAS; from signature squeaky cheese curds to award-winning specialty cheeses to Colby cheese, named for the central Wisconsin city where it was developed in 1874, Wisconsin cheese is a delicacy enjoyed by folks across the state and all over the world; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins all Wisconsinites in celebrating its proud tradition as “America’s Dairyland” and encourages folks across the state to support local cheesemakers and the dairy industry as a whole throughout the new year;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,  
do hereby proclaim January 20 2023 as

## **CHEESE LOVER’S DAY**

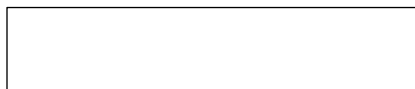
throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance  
to all our state’s residents.

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 30<sup>th</sup> day of December 2022.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State