

WHEREAS; celebrated nationwide since 1976, Black History Month was borne out of the efforts of historian Carter G. Woodson and minister Jesse E. Moorland to research and promote Black achievement in the early 1900s, as well as the subsequent nationwide call for racial equality that defined the civil rights movement of the 1960s; and

WHEREAS; Black History Month encourages us to celebrate the countless scientific, artistic, economic, entrepreneurial, and intellectual contributions of Black Americans in our communities, and to recognize the collective struggle for full citizenship, equity, inclusion, and justice that Black Americans have endured throughout our nation’s history; and

WHEREAS; this year’s Black History Month theme is “Black Health and Wellness,” celebrating the critical work of Black medical practitioners of every tradition, recognizing the many activities, rituals, and initiatives Black communities have engaged in—both now and throughout history—to promote wellness, and calling attention to the need for increased diversity and representation in the medical field; and

WHEREAS; this Black History Month, as we center the experiences of Black individuals in our medical systems and acknowledge the importance of prioritizing health and wellness in the Black community, we affirm our commitment to meaningfully addressing persistent health disparities and working toward equity in healthcare access and health outcomes for Black individuals throughout the state of Wisconsin and beyond; and

WHEREAS; on this occasion, we also look ahead to other opportunities to promote and improve overall health and wellness for Black Wisconsinites, including fully funding schools in every ZIP code, expanding access to affordable high-speed internet, ensuring the right of every eligible voter to have free, fair access to the ballot box; and

WHEREAS; as we reflect on our collective past, and on the events of the last few years, in particular, as violence against Black lives has seen a renewed national focus, we must lay bare that the crimes and struggles of our ancestors cannot be separated from our country’s modern history and that many of the injustices and inequities that Black Americans have historically endured have nevertheless remained deeply entrenched in our country’s culture and institutions; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin celebrates Black History Month to encourage Black excellence, to demand justice, equity, and accountability for Black lives in our state and country, and to honor the important work being done in our communities to create a more inclusive, equitable, and just state where every family, every kid, and every community can thrive;

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

BLACK HISTORY 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 28th day of January 2022.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State