STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; every year, approximately 40,000 Americans are killed in acts of gun violence and thousands more are shot and wounded; and

WHEREAS; on average, around 600 Wisconsinites are killed—and more than 1,000 are injured—in acts of gun violence every year; and

WHEREAS; according to the Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund, more Americans are killed with guns by early February of any given year than are killed in our peer countries in an entire calendar year; and

WHEREAS; gun violence includes, but is not limited to, gun suicides, gun homicides, domestic violence involving a firearm, officer involved shootings, and unintentional shootings, all of which have widespread implications for victims, survivors, and their communities; and

WHEREAS; a gun violence survivor is anyone who has experienced gun violence, whether through witnessing an act of gun violence, being personally threatened or wounded with a gun, or knowing someone who has been wounded or killed with a gun; and

WHEREAS; survey data from 2018 reports that 58 percent of American adults, including 68 percent of Black and Latino Americans, have either personally experienced or had a loved one experience gun violence in their lifetime, demonstrating the pervasive impact that gun violence has in communities across our country; and

WHEREAS; firearms are one of the leading causes of death among children and teens in our country, and tireless advocates throughout the United States are working to end this tragic and senseless violence through commonsense gun safety legislation; and

WHEREAS; in fact, according to a 2019 poll from the Marquette University Law School, more than 80 percent of Wisconsinites, including a majority of gun owners in our state, support the implementation of commonsense measures like universal background checks and extreme risk protection orders to keep our kids, our communities, and our state safe; and

WHEREAS; on this occasion, we reaffirm our commitment to reducing gun violence and pledge to do everything possible to implement commonsense measures that will save lives and to encourage responsible gun ownership; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins all Wisconsinites in raising awareness of gun violence in our state and country, honoring and remembering all victims, and uplifting the resilient voices of survivors across our nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim February 1 – 7, 2022, as

GUN VIOLENCE SURVIVORS WEEK

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance

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 21st day of January 2021.

TONY EVERS

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE Secretary of State