

WHEREAS; on February 3, 1943, four United States Army chaplains aboard the *USAT Dorchester* heroically gave their lives in the process of saving others as their ship was torpedoed and sank in less than 20 minutes; and

WHEREAS; when the supply of life jackets ran out on their sinking ship, Lieutenant George Fox, a Methodist minister, Lieutenant Alexander Goode, a Jewish rabbi, Lieutenant Clark Poling, a Dutch Reformed minister, and Lieutenant John Washington, a Roman Catholic priest, selflessly gave up their life jackets to those who had none; and

WHEREAS; according to witnesses who survived the attack, the four chaplains linked arms, sang hymns, and offered prayers as they went down with their ship; and

WHEREAS; 672 members of our nation's military tragically passed away that day, including the four chaplains and 11 soldiers from Wisconsin, and a memorial to those who lost their lives is located in the village of Dorchester; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin joins all Wisconsinites in reflecting on the selflessness and sacrifice of the four chaplains, and all those who lost their lives aboard the *USAT Dorchester*, on that fateful day 78 years ago;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim February 3, 2021, as

FOUR CHAPLAINS 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 27th day of January 2021.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State