## STATE of WISCONSIN



Proclamation

WHEREAS; the safety of farm and agricultural workers throughout Wisconsin is of the utmost importance to our state; and

WHEREAS; grain production, handling, and transportation is a significant industry in Wisconsin and across the United States, but it can be dangerous work, as it takes only seconds to be completely engulfed in flowing grain or overcome by oxygen-deficient environments that can result in suffocation and even death; and

WHEREAS; over the past 50 years, more than 900 cases of grain engulfment have been reported in the United States, with a fatality rate of 62 percent, but as most non-fatal grain engulfment incidents are unlikely to be reported, increased training and public awareness are essential to helping prevent situations where engulfment might occur to prevent future losses of life; and

WHEREAS; observed annually during the third full week in February, Grain Bin Safety Week provides an opportunity to promote grain bin safety on farms and in commercial grain-handling facilities; and

WHEREAS; Grain Bin Safety Week is a collaborative effort by industry leaders and agricultural professionals, including Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company, the Wisconsin Insurance Alliance, Nationwide Financial, the Wisconsin Corn Growers Association, Cooperative Network, Wisconsin Farmers Union, the Wisconsin Association of Mutual Insurance Companies, the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation, the Wisconsin Soybean Association, and the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety, working together to raise awareness; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins our state's grain operators, farmers, and all agricultural workers in promoting education and awareness of hazards and safe work practices, and in working to reduce the number of preventable injuries and deaths associated with grain handling and storage;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim February 20 – 26, 2022, as

## GRAIN BIN SAFETY WEEK

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 4<sup>th</sup> day of February 2022.

TONY EVERS GOVERNOR

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE

Secretary of State