WHEREAS; colorectal cancer is the third leading cause of cancer death in both men and women in the United States; and

WHEREAS; in 2020 alone, it is estimated that over 145,000 Americans were diagnosed with colorectal cancer, and over 53,000 died of the disease; and

WHEREAS; colorectal cancer incidence and mortality rates are disproportionately higher among racial and ethnic minorities, and we recognize that these disparities are not the consequence of individual habits or poor choices, and that, if we want to improve the health and wellness of all people, we must confront the need for increased access to quality healthcare and education in communities of color; and

WHEREAS; incidence rates of colorectal cancer are also continuing to rise among young and middle-aged adults, which is why it is critical that people of all ages, races, genders, and identities know the signs and symptoms of the disease; and

WHEREAS; while colorectal cancer currently has no cure, it is one of the few cancers that can be prevented with timely screening, such as a colonoscopy; and

WHEREAS; the goal established by the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable is to increase regular colorectal cancer screening rates to 80 percent of eligible Americans in every community nationwide; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins patients, survivors, healthcare providers, and all those who have been affected by the disease across our state in raising awareness about the importance of early detection and screening for colorectal cancer;

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

COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS 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 17th day of February 2021.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State