

WHEREAS; according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), a traumatic brain injury (TBI) is an injury that affects how the brain works that can be caused by a bump, blow, jolt to the head, penetrating head injury, or other external force; and

WHEREAS; an acquired brain injury (ABI) is a brain injury that is non-hereditary, non-congenital, and non-degenerative, that is not induced by trauma at birth, and that is most often the result of factors such as an infection or stroke; and

WHEREAS; whether it is a TBI or ABI, the consequences of a brain injury are unpredictable and can affect how an individual thinks, acts, and feels; and

WHEREAS; the CDC estimates that there are approximately 5.3 million individuals living with a disability related to a TBI in the United States, and while a brain injury can impact anyone regardless of age, children and older adults are at an increased risk; and

WHEREAS; between 2000 and 2022, the United States Department of Defense reported more than 468,000 TBIs among service members worldwide, underscoring the necessity of ensuring access to healthcare and support services to active military members, veterans, and their families; and

WHEREAS; family members and loved ones of individuals who have sustained a brain injury may also face challenges as they adjust, including financial difficulties, problems with communication, and lack of support from other family members and friends; and

WHEREAS; brain injury organizations in Wisconsin are a valuable source of information, education, advocacy, and support for individuals who have experienced a brain injury, their family members and friends, and the professionals who serve them; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins all Wisconsinites in promoting further understanding of brain injuries, spreading awareness of prevention and treatment, and supporting all those who have experienced a brain injury, including service members and veterans;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim March 2023 as

BRAIN INJURY 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 2023.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State