

WHEREAS; neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorder (NMOSD) is a rare and relatively unknown autoimmune disease that affects an individual's spinal cord and optic nerves; and

WHEREAS; according to Mayo Clinic, NMOSD attacks the central nervous system and can cause permanent disability, including blindness and paralysis; and

WHEREAS; the cause of NMOSD remains unknown, and only three FDA-approved treatments for the disease exist; and

WHEREAS; Cleveland Clinic states that while symptoms of NMOSD may appear at any age, the disease usually impacts individuals between 30 and 40, and early detection of the disease is key because when mistaken for other diseases, treatments can exacerbate symptoms; and

WHEREAS; increased awareness of NMOSD has helped doctors to better recognize the varying manifestations of the disease, but more needs to be done to ensure greater awareness in the medical community and general population; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins individuals, advocates, and organizations across the state in raising awareness and understanding of NMOSD in order to promote research, improve patient care and outcomes, and find a cure;

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

NEUROMYELITIS OPTICA SPECTRUM DISORDER 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 3rd day of February 2023.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State