

# STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

## Proclamation

*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