WHEREAS; flooding is one of the most frequently occurring natural disasters in Wisconsin and across the United States, claiming the lives of 106 Americans in 2022 alone, including three in Wisconsin, according to data from the National Weather Service; and

WHEREAS; in recent years, flooding has affected a greater number of Wisconsin municipalities and increased damage costs to public and private property, underscoring the importance of learning how to mitigate, prevent, and respond to flooding; and

WHEREAS; according to the National Weather Service, as little as two feet of rushing water can sweep a vehicle off the road, and more than half of all flood-related fatalities involve people in vehicles attempting to drive through water-covered roads; and

WHEREAS; it is essential for all Wisconsinites to evaluate the risk of flooding in their communities and take appropriate preparedness and mitigation actions before a flooding event occurs; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin Emergency Management's ReadyWisconsin campaign provides people and communities throughout the state with the tools they need to be prepared in the event of an emergency; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins Wisconsin Emergency Management and the National Weather Service in working to raise public awareness of the importance of planning and preparing for the risks associated with flooding;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim March 6 through 10 2023 as

WISCONSIN FLOOD SAFETY AWARENESS 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 10th day of February 2023.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State